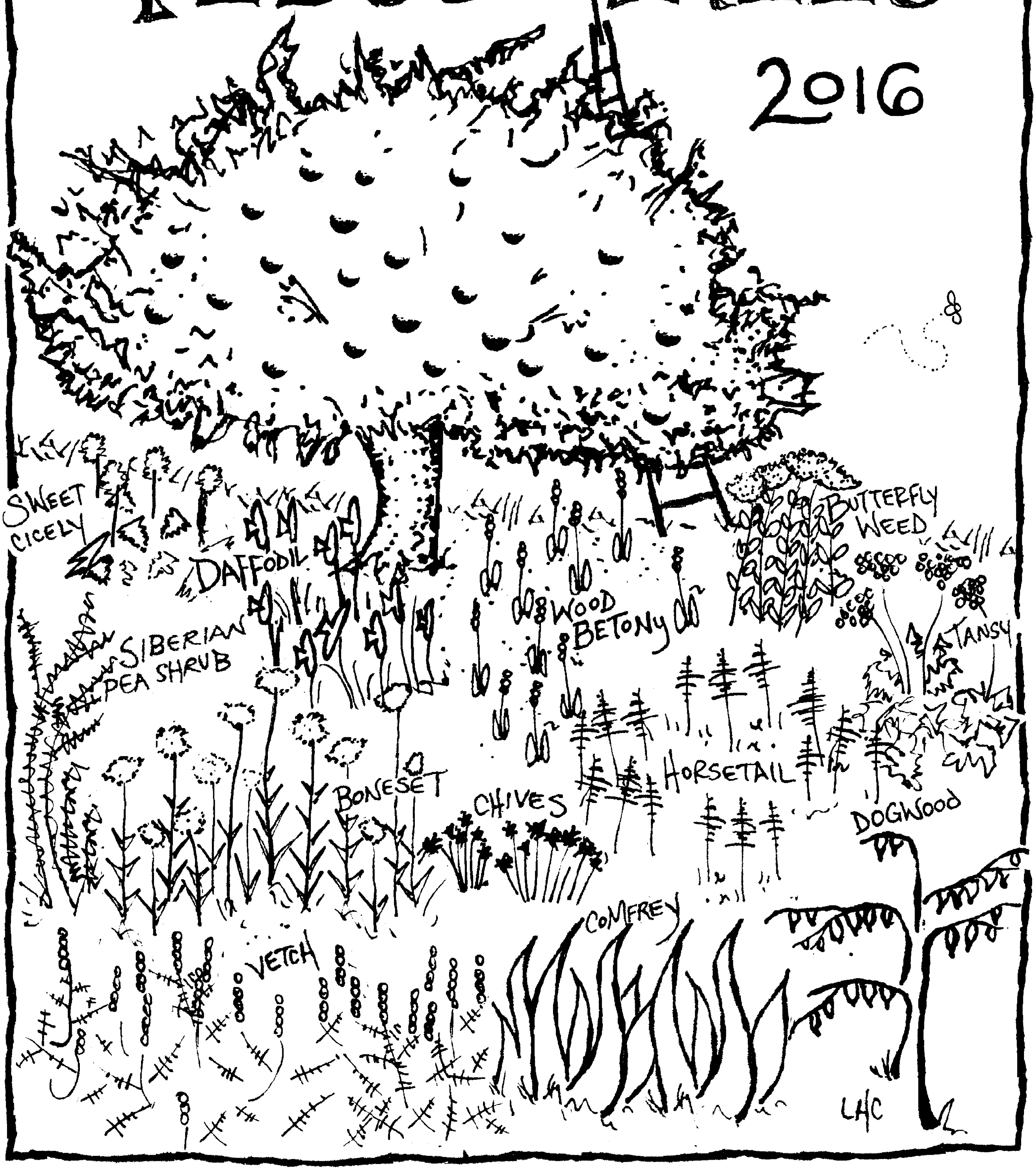
FEDCO TREES

2016


SWEET CICELY
DAFFODIL
WOOD BETONY
BUTTERFLY WEED
SIBERIAN PEA SHRUB
TANSY
BONESET
CHIVES
HORSETAIL
DOGWOOD
COMFREY
VETCH
LHC

FEDCO TREES 2016

Welcome to Fedco Trees' 32th annual order. Our goal is to provide the hardiest and healthiest plants available for cold climates, while supporting small-scale, local agriculture and a fair, cooperative and responsible workplace. Our no-frills operation and volume discounts help keep plants affordable. Consider ordering in a group with co-workers, friends or neighbors to further minimize your costs.

Weeds

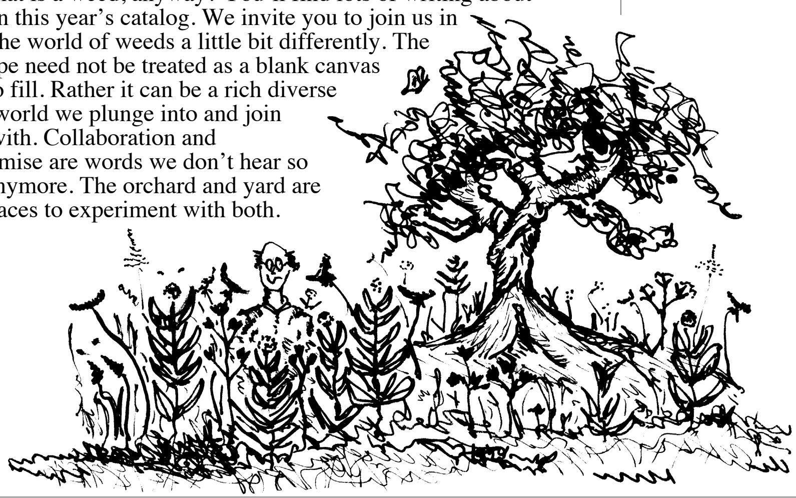
Weed is not a botanical term. Although each of us probably has our own definition, it's generally a word we use to describe certain plants that show up in locations of their own choosing. Are weeds good or bad? A weed to me may be a showy specimen to you. Your neighbors may be poisoning the dandelions in their lawns while you eat yours for dinner.

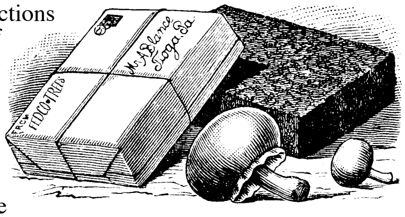
Over the years I have grown to appreciate the weeds. This is their farm, too, and they aren't leaving any time soon. So we invite them to stay, pretending that it was our idea in the first place. Feeling welcome, they flourish alongside the newcomers we brought with us—the lilacs and the roses, the raspberries, the peaches, the daylilies. While we still mow paths and meticulously weed and mulch our vegetable gardens, for the most part the weeds have become equal partners on the farm. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em. The weeds are great and beautiful bloomers. They provide wonderful habitat, improve and hold the soil, and in the fall they lie down and mulch the land.

A July orchard as a sea of milkweed, valerian and Queen Anne's lace was for me an acquired taste. At first it looked like an incredible mess and I felt like a failure if I didn't run for the mower. But it's grown on me. I've begun to see a new kind of elegant organization that I love. I wade through the weeds and hear the sounds of a thousand bees. If the monarchs ever return, we'll be ready.

What we now treasure as our favorite heirloom apples were nearly all volunteers, "weeds" you might say, that happened to be discovered by some observant farmer in a rocky cattle pasture or along some stone wall or quiet roadside. These selections were subsequently grafted and named and passed from neighbor to neighbor, village to village. Some like Gray Pearmain, Harmon and Moses Wood were never known beyond a county or two, while others like Baldwin, Ben Davis and Northern Spy became world famous.

Our offerings this year include several new apple weeds. These wild seedling apples, discovered by fruit-exploring friends around the Northeast, are so good we decided to graft and offer them. We're also offering many other wonderful plants that straddle the weed line. What is a weed, anyway? You'll find lots of writing about weeds in this year's catalog. We invite you to join us in seeing the world of weeds a little bit differently. The landscape need not be treated as a blank canvas for us to fill. Rather it can be a rich diverse weedy world we plunge into and join forces with. Collaboration and compromise are words we don't hear so much anymore. The orchard and yard are great places to experiment with both.

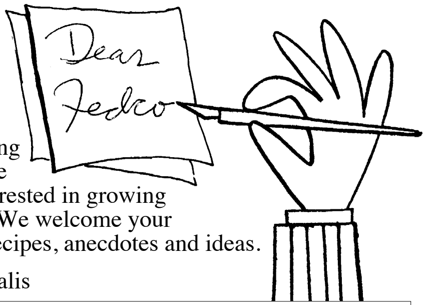




Each year we vary the selections of plants. We offer most of the old favorites every year and rotate through dozens of new offerings. You'll find new fruit trees and ornamentals throughout the catalog. **Mushroom spawn** for nine varieties may be our most exciting new listing. You can still **become a MOFGA tree steward** (p. 19) by purchasing one or more rare historic apple trees. Please note our discount structure for large orders, our discount deadline, and the "Small & Light" shipping option for those who desire only items that don't require a giant box.

We do special orders. If you wish to buy **large quantities** of any item, larger or smaller plants than we are listing, rooted cuttings, or unusual items we're not listing, please write with particulars. Ask us about **custom grafting**: for big orcharding operations, we're ramping up this program to provide large quantities of trees at a discount.

All of our trees are guaranteed. If your tree or shrub does not grow to your satisfaction during the first growing season, please let us know! We'll send you a refund. We don't have a huge staff so if we don't respond quickly, don't hesitate to remind us; we are in business to serve you.



Please share your experiences growing plants with us. Many of our selections result from your suggestions. If you know of something growing near you that we should be offering, or if you are interested in growing for us, please write to us. We welcome your comments, suggestions, recipes, anecdotes and ideas.

John Bunker & Susan Kiralis

Our website: **fedcoseeds.com**
then click on Fedco Trees.

- **You may order online.**
- **Check product availability online.**

We also post color photos of most of our trees, shrubs and perennials and a wide range of information.

Find photos and updates on our **Fedco Trees Facebook** page.

contact us:
by email at questions@fedcoseeds.com
or phone 207-426-9900

Ordering instructions	**p. 3**
Order Forms	**center**
Complete index	**p. 71**

	begin on page
Hardy Fruit Trees	8
Small Fruits & Berries	27
Mushrooms	34
Trees, Shrubs, Roots & Vines	39
Perennials	60
Herbaceous Medicinals	68
Tender Bulbs	70

We guarantee the quality of our trees and plants, and warrant that all items we offer are fully satisfactory.
If you are dissatisfied for any reason, we will replace the item or refund the purchase price.

Please inspect your order upon receipt and use the correction sheet to notify us immediately of any problems. Because good results depend upon weather, soil and cultural practices over which we have no control, we limit our liability in all instances to the purchase price. The liability of Fedco Seeds, Inc., for breach of warranty, or any loss or damages arising out of the purchase or use of our products, including loss or damages resulting from any negligence whatsoever on our part, or strict liability in tort, shall be limited to the purchase price. By acceptance of the merchandise, the buyer acknowledges that the limitations and disclaimers herein described are conditions of sale, and that they constitute the entire agreement between the parties regarding any warranty or liability. Claims for any defects in Fedco's products should be presented to Fedco as soon as possible after discovery. Failure to assert claims within 30 days after discovery renders this warranty null and void.

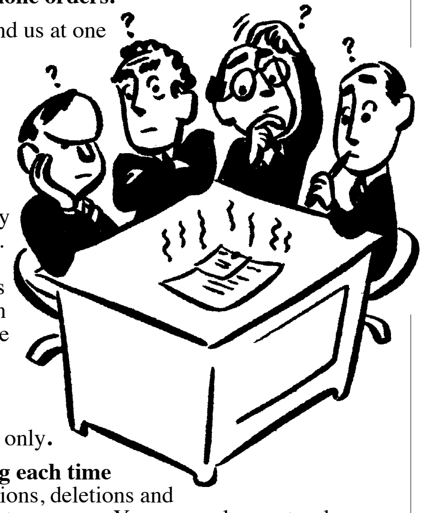
Ordering Information —

Order items from this catalog online or on a Trees **2016 order form**, in the center of the catalog; you may submit as many pages as you need: photocopies, forms downloaded from our website or printouts mimicking our format. To encourage you to participate in a group order and to order early, we give discounts.

Order **scionwood** or rootstock for early shipment online or from the order form on page 37. More information on p. 20.

Payment: we accept check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, AmEx and Discover; payment must accompany all orders. We request that mailed orders under $25 pay by check or MO. Make your check out to Fedco. We will charge your card when we receive your order. We will bill or refund you for any adjustments as each order is completed.

- **Online**: go to **fedcoseeds.com** and click on Fedco Trees.
- **Mail** your order: **Fedco Trees, PO Box 520, Waterville, ME 04903-0520.** Keep a copy of your order for your records. To confirm receipt of your order, enclose a stamped self-addressed postcard.
- **We do not take fax or phone orders.**



Group orders: By mail, send us at one time all your members' order forms with one payment and receive the individually packaged orders at one address. The group total earns the discount, if any. Use an additional order form for a group cover sheet. Keep a copy of each group member's order.

We also accept group orders online. Group coordinators can click on Group Ordering on the Fedco Trees page for instructions.

Maine 5.5% sales tax: for **Maine residents** and **pickups** only.

We charge **$10 for handling each time you adjust your order**. Additions, deletions and cancellations are costly for us to process. You are welcome to place as many separate orders as you wish.

We will offer surplus for sale at the Tree Sale. Sometimes we have stock left over after the Tree Sale, but not after mid-May when we shut down completely and go home to plant.

Our Planting Guide
is incorporated into the catalog. **Save your catalog** for planting and cultural instructions. The catalog is also available online.

Discounts & Deadlines —

Discount deadline is **Friday, January 15, 2016.** Sorry, no volume discounts on later orders. Discounts apply only to orders either picked up or shipped to one address.

over $200	10% discount
over $400	15% discount
over $1000	20% discount

We fill all orders on a first-come first-served basis.

Final order deadline is **March 4, 2016.**

Shipping —

We ship most orders **via UPS beginning around April 1**, continuing for about two weeks, according to planting zone. Our last regular shipping date is around April 15. We will have a special late shipping date around May 4. We do not ship at other times.

We strive to make our **shipping charges** fair, and it is a challenge. Since most packages we send with trees and shrubs are subject to expensive charges for oversized boxes and heavy weights, we have a category of small and light items that cost less to ship.

Regular UPS shipping charges: Shipping is a percentage of your adjusted total with the following minimums:

area	minimum	rate
Continental US	$20	15% over $134

Shipments to Alaska go via USPS Priority Mail:

Alaska	$25	20% over $125

Please include a postal address. This rate also applies to anyone in the lower 48 who *requires* postal delivery.

Small & Light shipping: If you order **only** items with stock numbers beginning with L: perennials, bulbs, strawberries, rhubarb, hops, asparagus, scionwood, and more.

S&L to all states	$10	15% over $67

If you order **any** other items in addition to these, you **must** pay the regular shipping charges.

If you require a specific ship date during our regular shipping time, **we charge an additional $15** to cover our extra handling costs. If you opt for **late shipment** around May 4, the handling **charge is $25** in addition to regular shipping charges.

Pickup —

Pick up your order during our annual Tree Sale at our Hinckley Road warehouse in Clinton, Maine. Friday and Saturday, April 29–30, are reserved for preorder customers. The second Friday and Saturday, May 6–7, we are open to the public, and orders are still available for pickup. **Sale hours are 9:00–3:00** each day. We will send you a pickup reminder and map in April.

Substitutions —

When dealing with live plants, we can never be certain that we can fill your order. If something becomes unavailable, our default mode is to substitute a similar variety because most people prefer a similar tree or plant to a refund. On the order form, if you indicate you don't want any substitutions, we'll send a refund.

If you order apples, please indicate whether you will accept the varieties on similar rootstocks.

Our Variety Descriptions –

All trees and plants are bare-rooted (except where noted), and even a large order can fit into a station wagon. All fruit and nut trees are well-rooted, 1/4–7/8" in diameter.

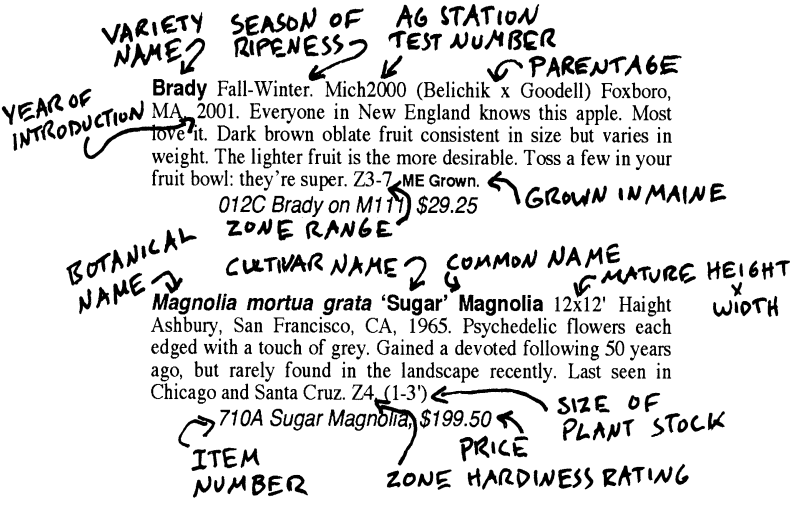
For fruit trees and berries, the **exact dates of peak ripeness** will vary from place to place.

The **zone hardiness rating** will aid you in determining whether a plant will be hardy for you. The average minimum temperature in your area determines your zone (chart on p. 71). Apple descriptions have minimum and maximum zones because apples typically need cold climates to produce the best fruit. All other plants list the coldest hardiness zone. Your own soil conditions, microclimate and topography will be equally important in determining the best varieties for you.

Please note **pollination requirements** for fruits, nuts and berries. Some plants are self-pollinating, others require a second plant for pollination, and others require a second variety.

We strive to give you accurate information about all the plants we sell. If you notice inaccuracies, please let us know.

John Bunker, Lauren Cormier and Jen Ries write tree and shrub descriptions. Laura Childs writes perennial and bulb descriptions. Elisabeth Benjamin and Susan Kiralis edit.



Brady Fall-Winter. Mich2000 (Belichik x Goodell) Foxboro, MA, 2001. Everyone in New England knows this apple. Most love it. Dark brown oblate fruit consistent in size but varies in weight. The lighter fruit is the more desirable. Toss a few in your fruit bowl: they're super. Z3-7. **ME Grown.**

012C Brady on M111 $29.25

***Magnolia mortua grata* 'Sugar' Magnolia** 12x12' Haight Ashbury, San Francisco, CA, 1965. Psychedelic flowers each edged with a touch of grey. Gained a devoted following 50 years ago, but rarely found in the landscape recently. Last seen in Chicago and Santa Cruz. Z4. (1-3')

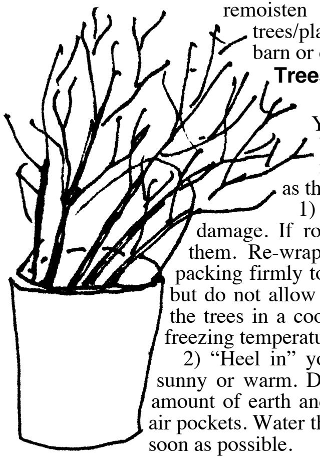
710A Sugar Magnolia, $199.50

When you get your order:
Immediate Care

When your new trees and plants arrive, they need to be planted as soon as possible. Don't be deterred by snow. If you can dig a shovel into the ground, plant your trees. If you wait until spring is in full swing, your plants will be stressed and have a hard time recovering. Sometimes frozen ground makes immediate planting impossible. When this is the case, follow the instructions below and all will be well. **Why do we send plants even when there is snow on the ground?** The weather may be fickle but we must be steady. We are dealing with bare-root trees that have to be moved out of storage and sent to their new homes in early spring. For our system to work, we must follow a tight shipping schedule regardless of regional weather conditions. We begin shipping around April 1 and finish around April 15, sending orders by climate zones, warmer zones first.

DO NOT ALLOW ROOTS TO DRY OUT AT ALL!!!

Trees & Shrubs: Planting Within 48 Hours



Leave the plastic wrapping around the root ball. Add some water to remoisten the packing material and store your trees/plants in a cool shaded place like a shed, barn or cellar. Avoid heat and sunlight.

Trees & Shrubs: If You Cannot Plant Within 48 Hours

You may keep plants for a week or two by following one of two temporary measures and continuing to water trees as they need it.

1) Open your package and inspect for damage. If roots or packing material are dry, water them. Re-wrap the plastic bag around the root ball, packing firmly to eliminate air pockets. Keep roots moist but do not allow puddles to form in the packaging. Keep the trees in a cool dark area, protected from the sun and freezing temperatures.

2) "Heel in" your plants in a protected spot that isn't sunny or warm. Dig a trench or turn back an appropriate amount of earth and bury the roots; tamp firmly to remove air pockets. Water thoroughly. Plant in permanent location as soon as possible.

Asparagus

Open up asparagus roots and store dry and uncovered in a cool shaded place.

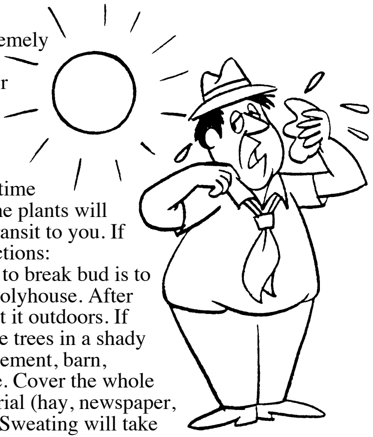
Strawberries

Refrigerate strawberry plants until you are ready to plant them.

Perennials

Open bags and check the stock immediately. Roots and crowns should be firm and pliable, not squishy or brittle. If they are slightly dry, add a little water, or, if they are going to be potted up soon, soak the roots. Generally, a little surface mold is harmless and will not affect the plant's future performance. Pot up crowns and roots; **do not plant directly outdoors**. If you cannot pot the crowns up immediately, store them in a cool (35–40°) location for a short time. See page 68 for details.

Sweating Nursery Stock



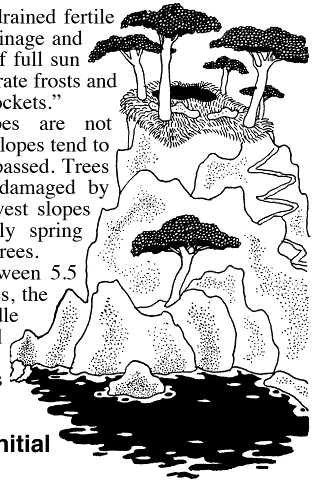
Some trees and shrubs become extremely dormant during refrigerated storage. These include: Amelanchier (juneberry), Betula (birch), Cercis (redbud), Crataegus (hawthorn) and Quercus (oak).

Sweating nursery stock ensures breaking of dormancy. Most of the time you can skip this process because the plants will begin to wake up while they're in transit to you. If they don't, then follow these instructions:

The easiest way to force any tree to break bud is to pot it and set it in a greenhouse or polyhouse. After the tree begins to leaf out, transplant it outdoors. If you don't have a greenhouse, lay the trees in a shady place, 45–70°, such as a garage, basement, barn, greenhouse or outdoors in the shade. Cover the whole plant with very damp packing material (hay, newspaper, etc.) followed by a sheet of plastic. Sweating will take several days; check the buds every day. The trees are ready to plant when the buds begin to swell.

TREE PLANTING AND CARE

Choosing a Site for Fruit Trees and Berries



The best sites for fruit crops have well-drained fertile soils, protection from wind, good air drainage and full sun. A gentle slope and 6–8 hours of full sun per day is ideal. Good air flow will moderate frosts and fungal disease. If possible, avoid "frost pockets."

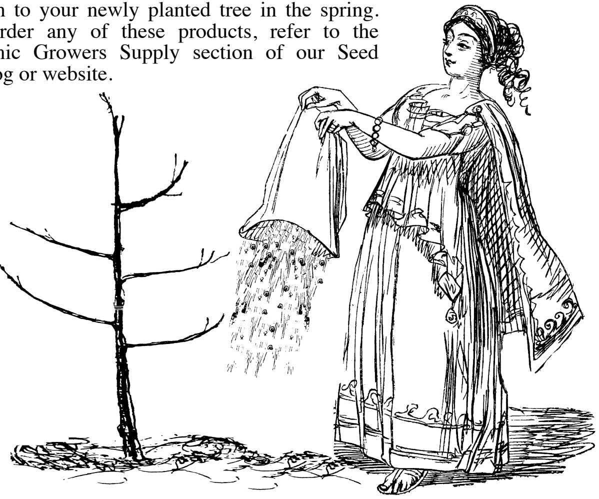
Sunny south- or west-facing slopes are not advisable for less hardy varieties. These slopes tend to warm up before the danger of frost has passed. Trees may flower prematurely and then be damaged by frost, causing loss of fruit. South and west slopes may also have widely fluctuating early spring temperatures that can damage less hardy trees.

Soil pH for fruit trees should be between 5.5 and 8.0, towards the lower end for apples, the higher end for peaches, and in the middle for others. Fruit species have optimal space requirements. See chart on page 6.

Do not plant trees where power lines will interfere with them.

Fall Preparation or Spring Initial Feeding for Fruit Trees

If you're interested in preparing locations for your trees this fall, or for feeding newly planted fruit trees, the following amendment recipe should address most sites in the eastern U.S., which tend to be acidic and moderate to low in calcium and phosphorus. You can apply this mix as a mulch to your newly planted tree in the spring. To order any of these products, refer to the Organic Growers Supply section of our Seed catalog or website.



Deluxe Method

Without digging the hole, cover an area 4–6' in diameter with:

5 lbs gypsum or Hi-Cal lime
5 lbs colloidal phosphate (short-term calcium and phosphorus)
5 lbs azomite (long-term minerals and trace minerals)
5 lbs granite meal or greensand (for improved soil texture)
2–3 lbs menefee humates (aids mineral and rock-powder breakdown)

For building high levels of humus, also add:

2 lbs alfalfa meal
2 lbs bone char or bone meal
2 lbs kelp meal
2 lbs blood meal
100 lbs compost (1/8 yard)
BioDynamic preps (optional)

Cover with a 3–4" mulch of lawn clippings, leaves or "brush" chips, which will smother the sod, conserve moisture, prevent leaching and provide a habitat for soil organisms to break down the recipe. In the spring, pull back the mulch and dig your tree hole, incorporating the mineral supplements and compost into the backfill.

Simpler Method

Forgo the soil amendments and simply pile 1–2 wheelbarrow loads of compost on each planting-hole site. If you live by the ocean, add a couple of wheelbarrows of seaweed. Then cover with mulch. In the spring, pull back the mulch and plant your fruit tree, incorporating the compost into the hole as you dig.

Feeding older fruit trees

Cover the surface of the ground out to the drip line with the same materials listed above. For larger trees (five years and older) increase the mineral amount to 10–15 lbs each. For ancient trees you can use up to 25 lbs of each mineral in a ring beneath the drip line. Mulch as described above.

The basics of tree care outlined here are meant to get you going. Obviously, we can't tell you everything you need to know in a few pages. Some specific information, like location or soil preferences of particular plants, is in the item descriptions. A soil test is useful in determining the specific needs of your site. Reading, observation, trial and error, and talking with other growers and with extension agents can expand your knowledge of trees and shrubs.

Consult the Fedco Seeds catalog's book list for recommended reference books, or look for information online, including useful links at our website, fedcoseeds.com.

General Planting Directions for Trees and Shrubs

- Dig a large hole, at least twice as wide and about as deep as the root system. Most roots grow laterally and need plenty of room to spread out. Your trees will benefit if the hole is at least 3' wide.
- Loosen up the soil at the bottom of the hole and especially around the sides. For fruit trees, if you haven't used a deluxe fall preparation, you may add a 3-lb bag of our planting mix (available from the Organic Growers Supply section of the Fedco Seeds catalog), or well-aged compost and mineral fertilizers like rock phosphate or azomite, but *not* manure or other nitrogen sources.
- Replace the topsoil around the roots where it will do the most good.

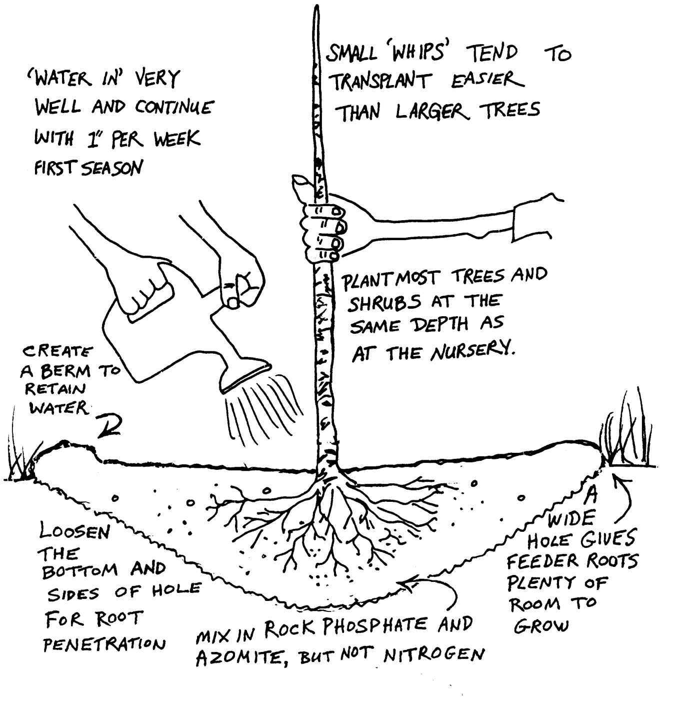
The best way to ensure your plants will thrive is to follow cultural requirements: the right site for the right plant. Many native plants don't require any fertilization. Add soil amendments only as needed.

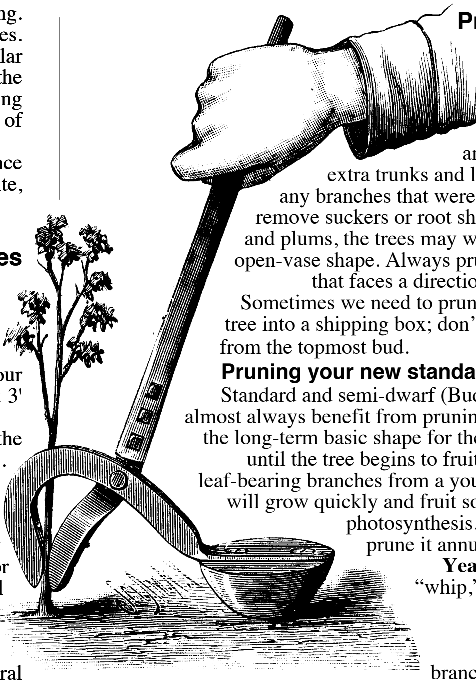
For best results, plant on cool cloudy days in the early morning or late afternoon. Soak deciduous trees and shrubs for up to 24 hours before planting. Keep the roots from drying out; even a few minutes in the sun and breeze can kill a tree or shrub. Keep them in a bucket of water as you plant.

Generally, you should plant trees and shrubs at the same depth that they grew in the nursery. You should be able to see a "dirt line" or a change in bark color indicating nursery depth. This is different from the graft line. Spread the roots out as you set the trees in the holes. Make a mound at the bottom of the hole over which to spread the roots. Give your trees plenty of water to "puddle in" as you plant. Wiggle the trunk as the water seeps in to ensure that the roots are settled in with no air pockets. Leave a berm around each tree so water will seep in and not run off. Keep them well watered throughout the first summer. They require the equivalent of 1–2" rain per week. A good soaking is effective; sprinkling is not.

Initial Pruning at Planting Time

Prune dead or injured branches and roots on all trees and shrubs. Further pruning of most trees is not necessary at planting time. Do not prune tops or prune or bend tap roots of nut trees. General information on pruning on pp. 46 and 50. Conifers (p. 50), roses (p. 52) and lilacs (p. 55) benefit from special pruning.


'WATER IN' VERY WELL AND CONTINUE WITH 1" PER WEEK FIRST SEASON
SMALL 'WHIPS' TEND TO TRANSPLANT EASIER THAN LARGER TREES
PLANT MOST TREES AND SHRUBS AT THE SAME DEPTH AS AT THE NURSERY.
CREATE A BERM TO RETAIN WATER
LOOSEN THE BOTTOM AND SIDES OF HOLE FOR ROOT PENETRATION
A WIDE HOLE GIVES FEEDER ROOTS PLENTY OF ROOM TO GROW
MIX IN ROCK PHOSPHATE AND AZOMITE, BUT NOT NITROGEN



Pruning Fruit Trees

Avoid pruning young trees except to establish a basic shape, as it delays bearing. On apple and pear trees, leave the central leader alone and let it grow. It's okay to cut off extra trunks and large branches. It's okay to prune any branches that were broken during shipping. Always remove suckers or root shoots from fruit trees. On peaches and plums, the trees may want to develop 2–4 leaders, or an open-vase shape. Always prune just above a good strong bud that faces a direction you'd like your plant to grow. Sometimes we need to prune a central leader in order to fit a tree into a shipping box; don't worry—a new leader will grow from the topmost bud.

Pruning your new standard or semi-dwarf apple tree

Standard and semi-dwarf (Bud 118 and M111) apple trees will almost always benefit from pruning when first planted, to establish the long-term basic shape for the tree. Then refrain from pruning until the tree begins to fruit. Every time you prune potential leaf-bearing branches from a young tree, you set it back. The tree will grow quickly and fruit sooner if you allow it to maximize photosynthesis. Once it begins to fruit, then you prune it annually.

Year one: If the tree is a branch-less "whip," cut the top back to a strong bud about 3–4' high. This will force branching at that level. This will eventually be your first tier of branches. The lowest scaffold (branch layer) should be very wide to collect as much sun as possible. If too low, these long branches will rest on the ground under the weight of fruit, and the deer will have a field day. Also, it becomes difficult to mow, mulch, etc.

If the new tree arrives with branches, prune off all but 3–4 branches at the height you'd like for your first tier, also at about 3–4', or higher if you prefer.

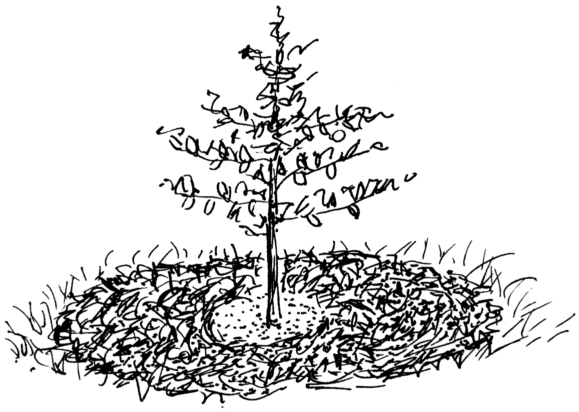
Year two: Trim off root suckers or other odd branches that come up from around the base. Otherwise, leave the tree be and let it grow.

The next few years: If something looks really crowded, broken or dead, prune it. Otherwise, leave your tree alone and let it grow. If you don't fuss over it too much, you'll get fruit sooner!

Once your fruit tree begins to bear you will want to prune annually. Good pruning brings sunlight to all parts of your tree. Maximum sunlight encourages more and higher-quality fruit. Sunlight also encourages fruit buds to form for next year's crop. A well-pruned tree will produce larger fruit and will tend toward more annual bearing. Good pruning discourages fungal diseases and promotes greater spray penetration. There's an old saying that a bird should be able to fly through your fruit tree.

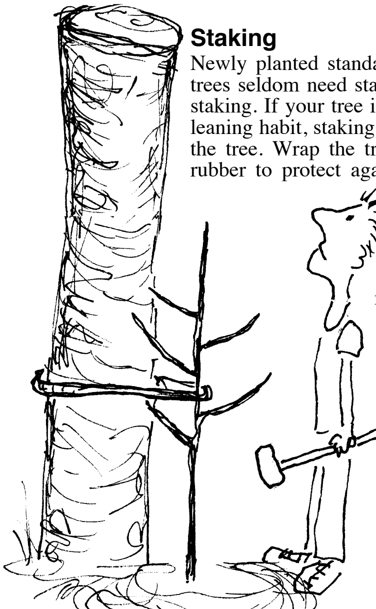
Most pruning should be done in late winter or early spring. We recommend a good-quality pair of hand shears and a lightweight pruning saw. You may also wish to invest in long-handled loppers, a pole pruner or a pole saw. Keep your pruning tools sharp for smooth, clean cuts.

Any good book on growing fruit trees will have the information you need. Consult old and new books as well as orcharding articles and develop a system that works for you. Pruning is not difficult and will make a huge difference.



Mulch

Keep weeds and especially grass away from new trees and shrubs. Apply a 2–4" mulch of composted material, leaves, wood chips or hay out as far as the drip line. A $\frac{1}{2}$–1" topdressing of alfalfa meal beneath the mulch may substantially reduce transplant shock. Keep mulch back several inches from the tree trunk. We lay down cardboard or newspaper and spread mulch on top of it. Mulch encourages earthworms, holds moisture, keeps down weeds, insulates against excess heat and cold, aerates and loosens soils, builds humus and fertilizes feeder roots, 90% of which are within 6" of the surface.



Staking

Newly planted standard-sized fruit trees and ornamental trees seldom need staking. Semi-dwarf trees may require staking. If your tree is in a very windy site or develops a leaning habit, staking may help. Drive a stout post near the tree. Wrap the tree trunk with a scrap of burlap or rubber to protect against abrasion. Secure the wrapped part of the tree to the post with string or wire. Tie tree somewhat loosely, as a slight rocking motion will encourage rooting. Once roots are well anchored, the stake may not be needed. Mark small trees with a stake with ribbons to warn operators of lawn mowers, tractors, cars, skidders and skateboards.

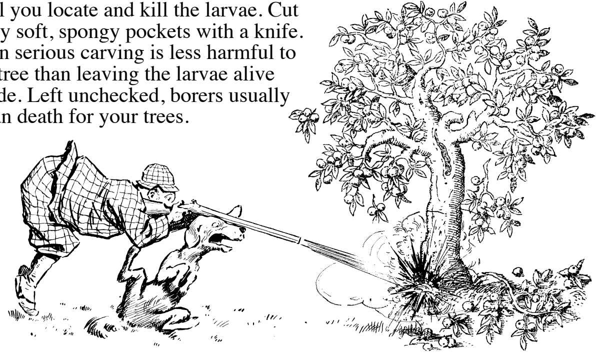
Spacing of Fruit Trees, Nut Trees & Berries

	between plants	between rows
Apples, Dwarf	7-8'	15'
Apples, Semi-dwarf	15'	15'
Apples, Standard	25–30'	25–30'
Asparagus	1–2'	4'
Blackberries	3–4'	6–12'
Blueberries, highbush	3–6'	8–10'
Blueberries, lowbush	1'	1'
Grapes	8'	8–10'
Hazel	4-6'	hedge
Kiwis	10'	10'
Nut trees - orchard	35'	35'
Nut trees - forest	20'	20'
Pears, Asian Pears	20'	20'
Raspberries	2'	6–12'
Stone Fruit	15–20'	15–20'
Strawberries	see instructions, p. 29	
Sweet Cherries	25'	25'

Beware the Apple Borer!

In many parts of central and northern New England the roundheaded appletree borer, *Saperda candida*, is **the number one enemy** of young **apple**, **crabapple** and **quince** trees. If you are growing young apple trees in these locations, you *must* protect your trees from this pest. Farther south and north the borer may not be a pest. If you don't know if they are a problem in your area, check with any grower near you: they'll know. Otherwise, err on the side of caution. The borer does not endanger other fruit trees or ornamentals.

Borer beetles lay eggs under the bark near the base of the tree. The developing larvae tunnel through the wood, eventually weakening the tree until it falls over. The trouble sign is small deposits of orange sawdust, called frass, at the base of the tree, usually appearing in June or July. Locate the hole or soft spot in the trunk and insert a wire until you locate and kill the larvae. Cut away soft, spongy pockets with a knife. Even serious carving is less harmful to the tree than leaving the larvae alive inside. Left unchecked, borers usually mean death for your trees.



Blasted Borers

When you discover a soft spot or hole in the tree, get yourself a can of compressed air (for cleaning computers). Put the long skinny tube nozzle up to the hole and give it a blast. Should do the trick.

The Polyculture Deterrent

Borer beetles thrive in shady moist warm environments. Keep grass back at least 6" from the tree base. Trials in our "functional" orchard suggest that a mixed polyculture environment may disguise the apple trees and fool the borers. We plant woody and herbaceous perennials around the trees, keeping them back 12" or so. Borers are lazy opportunists. If there are a lot of apple trees within easy reach, they will attack. Otherwise, you may never see them. The polyculture orchard may present too much work for them. So far, we've been able to keep this orchard clear of borers with no painting. (See below.)

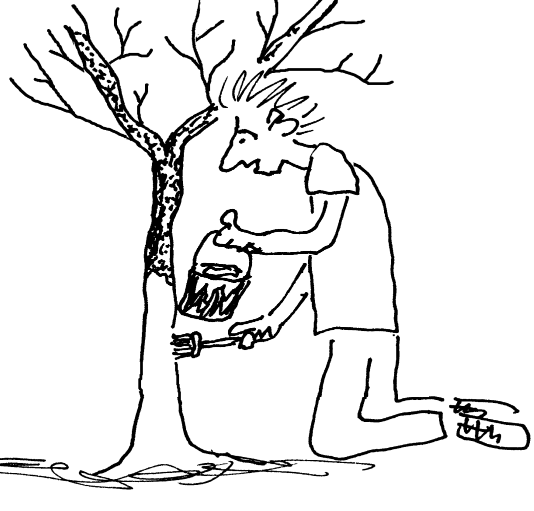
Paint the trunks

Painting is likely the best deterrent. I've tried a number of recipes and this is my favorite. It's easy and requires no hard-to-find ingredients. Mix white *interior* latex paint with joint compound. (The stuff you smear on sheet rock joints and nail holes—you can buy a small tub at any hardware store. Some exterior paint formulations contain ingredients that can harm the underlying phloem.) The consistency should be thick but still quite easy to paint, not glob on. Repaint as needed. This mix will help deter borers and also make detection of infestations easier. Look for the frass!

We are experimenting with a borer-protection formula using more benign ingredients. It doesn't last or adhere as well as the paint-joint compound mixture, but it appears to work fairly well.

2 qt quick lime
4 gal milk
1 gal boiled linseed oil

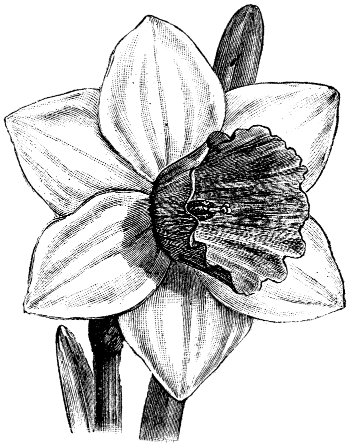
Mix well. Thicken as needed with clay or Surround (available in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Fedco Seeds catalog). Apply with a paint brush. Reapply as needed.



Protecting Trees from Mice and Voles

Fruit trees and ornamentals are sometimes girdled by mice or voles eating the bark. Girdling will usually kill the tree or shrub. The danger is greatest in winter. Keep the grass mowed in the fall and remove large mulch piles from near the trunks. Rodents like to nest in hay more than in chip mulches. A wrap of window screening or a plastic spiral tree guard will protect your tree from being girdled. If you use screening or plastic spiral tree guards on apple, quince or crabapple trees, remove them from April to October, as they attract borers if left on the tree in the summer. You can leave plastic spiral tree guards on most other trees year-round.

Our trials show that a mulch of wood chips surrounding young trees greatly reduces the chance of summer vole damage. Tall grasses invite them in. The polyculture model may provide cover for the voles and can result in summer vole damage. Keep the tall perennials back about 12" from the tree. Make your orchard hawk friendly.



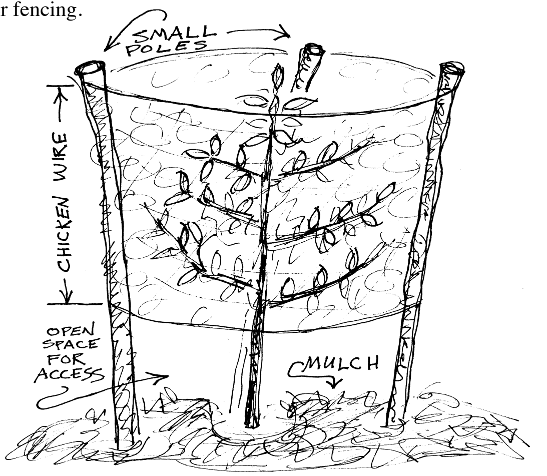
Voles Don't Like Narcissus!

For many years we've been planting daffodils around the base of some of our apple trees. No particular reason; it just looks great. Come to find out that you can beautify your orchard and deter voles at the same time. Plant daffodils in a circle a foot or two away from the base. The tunneling voles don't like the bulbs and will veer away.

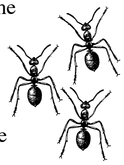
We don't have the super-destructive pine voles in our orchard—whether or not the bulbs would deter them, we don't know. We're continuing our trials in Massachusetts where the pine voles are a big problem.

Oh Dear, Deer!

The best deer protection is a collie in the yard. If you don't have a dog or if your orchard is too far from the house, an 8' sheep fence will work. Some people have good luck with electric fences. Small protective fence enclosures can be made by circling your tree with a cylinder of chicken wire or other fencing.

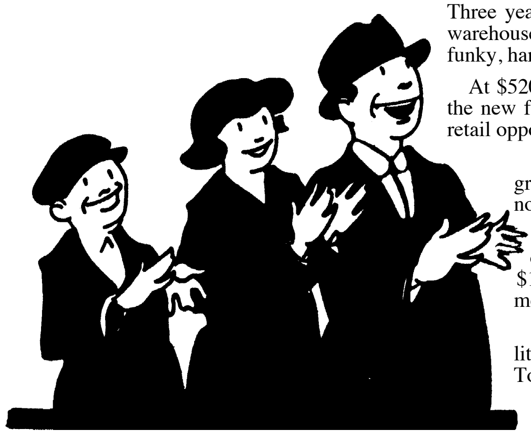


Aphids and ants



Aphids can do a lot of damage to apple trees and they make the young leaves look gross. Whenever you see aphids you will see ants climbing up and down the tree feeding them. Here's an easy solution. Wrap a piece of stiff paper about 6" wide around the trunk about a foot or two off the ground. Tape this "sleeve" to itself but not to the tree. Smear Tanglefoot on the paper. Ants will not cross the barrier and, without the ants, the aphids will die. In a day or two no more aphids.

Join Fedco as a Consumer Member-Owner!



Three years ago, with the help of equity from our loyal members, we moved our office to our new Trees warehouse in Clinton. We all love our new digs, but they haven't changed the way we operate. We're still funky, hard-working, and a little chaotic, especially around catalog-deadline and peak-order times.

At $520k, the new Trees warehouse was the largest capital investment in our history. After four years in the new facility our Trees division has settled in and enjoys its improved ease of operations and enhanced retail opportunities.

You can become a proud co-owner of this fine facility. Last year, our cadre of consumer-members grew to 942 folks from 39 states, the District of Columbia and even three Canadian provinces. We are now just 58 shy of our short-term goal of 1,000 members. Will you be one of those?

We are asking for $100 membership equity or, if this would prove a hardship, there is a $25 option, refundable at any time upon request. (If you pay by credit card we will charge your card $105 or $27 to cover the processing costs.) Please note that membership is by household (only one membership per household, please) or by farm or organization.

We can't claim we will change the world. But each tree we plant, each seed we plant, makes it a little greener, sequesters a little carbon, enhances diversity, and supports other plants and animals. Together we can make the planet a little healthier.

–CR Lawn, President, Fedco Seeds Inc.

Why Join Fedco as a Member?

- Membership = ownership. Own a piece of Fedco!
- Your membership equity helps finance our new facility, reducing our interest expense.
- Enjoy benefits such as a 1% discount on all your orders, and member-only Seeds specials!
- Happy with our products, prices and catalogs? Help us to endure and thrive for many years to come! Keep that humor, those bad puns and occasional rants coming!
- Support our politics around food policy and seed issues? Help us fulfill our mission!

If you have any questions please email us at questions@fedcoseeds.com or call 207-426-9900.

Yes, I want to join Fedco as a consumer member-owner!

Enclosed is a check for my refundable membership deposit of $100.
Please make membership certificate out to:

Name____

Address____

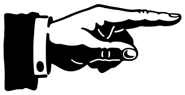
City___________________________ St_______ Zip___________

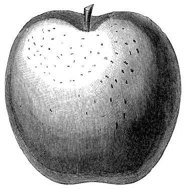
Customer # (if you know it)______________________

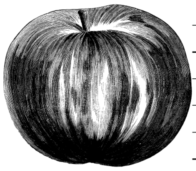
Email address_______________________________________

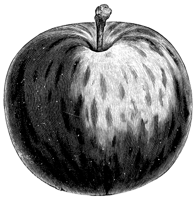
PO Box 520, Waterville ME 04903

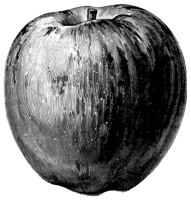
Pick the right apple

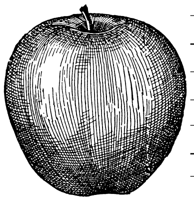


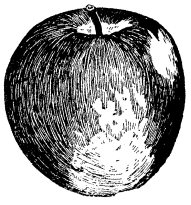


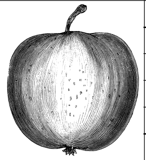


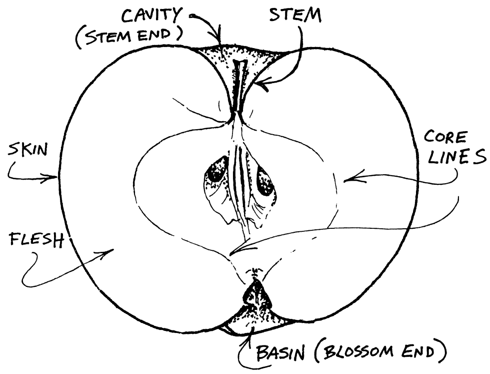








Item	Name	Season	All-Purpose	Fresh Eating	Storage	Cooking	Pies	High Flavor	Hard Cider	
									Bittersharp/ Sharp	Bittersweet/ Sweet
101	Amber Crab	fall							sharp	
102	Ashmead's Kernel	winter		🍎	🍎			🍎	sharp	
103	Ashton Bitter	fall								bittersweet
104	Baldwin	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎		sharp	
105	Beefsteak	fall	🍎	🍎		🍎				
106	Belle De Boskoop	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎			
107	Ben Davis	winter			🍎	🍎			sharp	
108	Benton Red	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎				
109	Black Oxford	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎			
110	Bourassa	fall		🍎				🍎		
112	Bullock	winter		🍎	🍎				sharp	
113	Calville Blanc d'Hiver	fall	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎			
115	Chestnut	fall		🍎		🍎		🍎		
117	Coles Quince	summer				🍎	🍎			
119	Cortland	fall	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎		sharp	
120	Cox's Orange Pippin	fall		🍎				🍎		
121	Dabinett	fall								bittersweet
122	Duchess of Oldenburg	summer	🍎	🍎		🍎	🍎			
124	Early Red Bird	summer		🍎		🍎				
125	Early Strawberry	summer		🍎		🍎		🍎		
126	Ellis Bitter	fall								bittersweet
127	Esopus Spitzenburg	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎			🍎	sharp	
128	Fall Pippin	fall	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎			
131	Golden Russet	winter		🍎	🍎			🍎	sharp	
132	Golden Spy	fall		🍎	🍎				sharp	
133	GoldRush	winter		🍎	🍎			🍎	sharp	
136	Gray Pearmain	fall	🍎	🍎	🍎			🍎		
137	Grimes Golden	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎		
140	Harrison	fall							sharp	
141	Harry Master's Jersey	fall								bittersweet
142	Hewe's Virginia Crab	fall							sharp	
143	Honeycrisp	winter		🍎	🍎			🍎		
146	Kavanagh	fall	🍎	🍎		🍎				
147	Kilham Hill	fall	🍎	🍎		🍎				
148	Kingston Black	fall							bittersharp	
149	Liberty	fall	🍎	🍎		🍎				
150	Lincolnville Russet	fall	🍎	🍎		🍎				
152	Major	fall								bittersweet
154	McIntosh	fall	🍎	🍎		🍎				
156	Milo Gibson	fall		🍎				🍎		
157	Moses Wood	summer	🍎	🍎		🍎	🍎			
158	Mother	fall		🍎				🍎		
159	Nehou	fall								bittersweet
160	Niedzwetzkyana	fall							sharp	
162	Northern Spy	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	sharp	
163	Opalescent	fall		🍎				🍎		
164	Perthyre	fall								bittersweet
165	Raspberry Spy	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎		sharp	
166	Redfield	fall				🍎	🍎		bittersharp	
168	Reine des Pommes	fall								bittersweet
171	Roxbury Russet	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎		🍎	sharp	
172	Sand Hill	fall								sweet
173	Shavel Sharp	fall							bittersharp	
174	Somerset of Maine	fall	🍎			🍎	🍎			
177	Sweet Sixteen	fall		🍎	🍎	🍎		🍎		
178	Tolman Sweet	fall	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎				sweet
179	Twenty Ounce	fall				🍎	🍎			
180	Wagener	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎			
181	Wardwell Sweet	fall		🍎		🍎				sweet
182	Wealthy	fall	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎			
183	Westfield Seek-No-Further	winter		🍎	🍎			🍎		
184	Wickson	fall	🍎	🍎				🍎	sharp	
186	Windfall Golden	fall		🍎				🍎		
188	Winthrop Greening	fall	🍎	🍎		🍎				
189	Wolf River	fall				🍎	🍎			
190	Yarlington Mill	fall								bittersweet
191	Yellow Bellflower	winter	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎	🍎			
192	Zestar	summer		🍎				🍎		



Apples *Malus spp*. Some definitions: **Summer apples** ripen in summer, are generally crisp only for a short period, do not store well, and are often best for cooking. **Fall apples** store longer and are useful for a wide variety of purposes. **Winter apples** ripen mid to late fall, store well, and reach their best flavor after weeks, or even months, of storage. **Dessert apples** are delicious eaten raw. **Cider apples** are especially suited to making fermented "hard" cider. Some cider apples are also good dessert fruit, but most are not. See the cider sidebar on page 11 and the apple chart on the facing page for more information. **Subacid** means tart! **Russet** or **russeting** is a skin texture (fairly common on apple varieties and on a few pears and potatoes) which looks and feels somewhat like suede. **Bloom** is a naturally occurring dust-like yeast film on the skin of some varieties of apples, plums, grapes and blueberries.

Each apple variety has a **climate range** where it will thrive and produce its best fruit. At the end of each apple description we list a range of zones. For example, Z3-4 signifies that this apple will reach perfection in Zones 3 and 4 and that we don't recommend it farther south even though it would be plenty hardy. Z4-6 means that this apple will reach perfection in Zones 4, 5 or 6. Although we have received reports from southern California that some of our rarest Maine apples are thriving in Zone 10A, we still suggest that you use this guide to select apples most appropriate to your area.

Choosing a variety: not every variety is right for you. **All-purpose** apples are just that—they're good for a bunch of jobs. If I were planting just one tree, I'd start there. However, if you're a history buff, consider the historical varieties and maybe plant one that originated nearby. If you don't eat many apples but love pies, go for the pie apples. If you're a dessert connoisseur, skip all the others and go for the highly flavored dessert varieties. Some are strictly for cider. Some are great to put out at the camp for summer use. Some are perfect for those who want fall fruit but don't have winter storage facilities. Others keep all winter and into the following summer. Read the descriptions and consult the chart. If you have a question about a specific variety, drop me an email: john@fedcoseeds.com. I'll try to help!

Rootstocks: This year we will once again offer most of our apples on standard Antonovka seedling rootstock. We also offer several varieties on semi-dwarf and dwarf rootstocks. See next column for more information about these "size-controlling" rootstocks and a list of available semi-dwarfs and dwarfs. Variety descriptions follow, beginning page 10.

Some people wonder why we have offered trees almost exclusively on standard (full-sized) rootstock over the years. Standard trees have deep, substantial—and therefore hardier—root systems. Last winter in central Maine the apples on standard rootstock survived far better than those on semi-dwarf or dwarf rootstock. By selecting the varieties appropriate to your district, grafted on standard rootstock, you may well be planting a tree that will be picked by your grandchildren's grandchildren. Standard trees will grow to be large, but you can keep them trimmed. Our largest trees are now about 30 years old, yet the tallest are well under 20'.

Although standard-sized apple trees may be planted as close as 10–15' apart, they were typically planted 30' apart in 19th-century orchards. We generally plant standard trees 20–25' apart with good results.

Apple trees are adaptable to a variety of soils and climates, though they prefer well-drained fertile soil. See pages 4–5 for information on soil preparation and planting. Varieties bearing annually are noted; others normally bear every other year. With diligent annual pruning and thinning, most apples will produce an annual crop, one heavy, the next light.

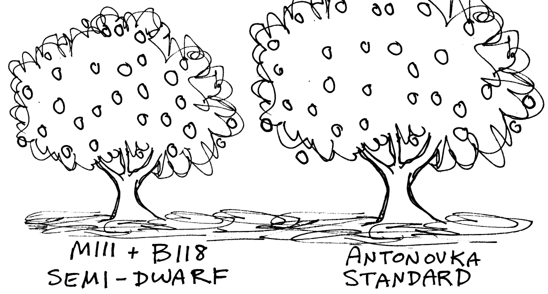
All apple trees require a second variety for pollination, but any apple or crabapple blooming at the same time, within a quarter mile, will probably do. (Stock is 3-6' trees except where noted.)

Semi-dwarf and dwarf Apples

After an enthusiastic response from customers the past few years, we continue to offer an assortment of semi-dwarf apples on M111 and Bud 9 rootstocks. Each has great advantages for some growers, but beware! These rootstocks also have their limitations. Please read on and decide if they are what you want. If you are uncertain, stick with the good old standards. Trees on Antonovka (standard rootstock) are extremely rugged, hardier, more tolerant of drought and poor soils, very long-lived, and more capable of thriving under a regime of benign neglect.

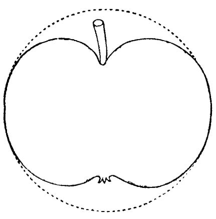
M111 semi-dwarfing rootstock produces a tree that is about **65–80%** of standard size. Sometimes M111 trees are called semi-standards. You can plant them closer together than standards, about 15–20' apart. M111 may not be more precocious than trees on standard. However it will likely be more productive. It has a relatively shallow spreading root system, does well in light soils, and is relatively drought tolerant. It is less well-rooted, not as long-lived, and not as hardy as Antonovka.

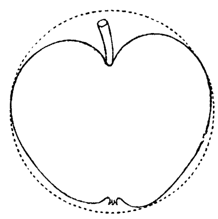
102C Ashmead's Kernel on M111
104C Baldwin on M111
109C Black Oxford on M111
113C Calville Blanc d'Hiver on M111
119C Cortland on M111
120C Cox's Orange Pippin on M111
121C Dabinett on M111
126C Ellis Bitter on M111
127C Esopus Spitzenburg on M111
131C Golden Russet on M111
132C Golden Spy on M111
133C GoldRush on M111
137C Grimes Golden on M111
140C Harrison on M111
141C Harry Masters Jersey on M111
143C Honeycrisp on M111
148C Kingston Black on M111
149C Liberty on M111
154C McIntosh on M111
160D Niedzwetzkyana on M111
162C Northern Spy on M111
165C Raspberry Spy on M111
166C Redfield on M111
171C Roxbury Russet on M111
184C Wickson on M111
190C Yarlington Mill on M111

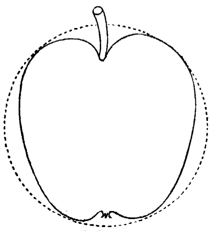


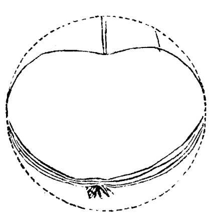
Bud 9 dwarf rootstock produces a tree that is very small. It is a true dwarf. This makes it extremely easy to spray, prune and pick. It requires way less space in your yard and will fruit at a very early age. You can plant trees 5–10' apart. On the other hand, it will not live nearly as long as those grafted onto Antonovka. It will be less well-rooted, more susceptible to drought and have more difficulty accessing soil nutrients. Trees should be staked for support. Hardy, but not nearly as hardy as Antonovka.

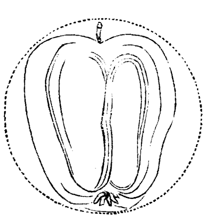
104D Baldwin on B9
109D Black Oxford on B9
119D Cortland on B9
143D Honeycrisp on B9
149D Liberty on B9
154D McIntosh on Bud 9

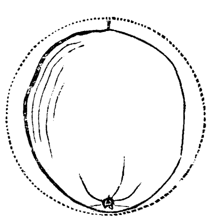

Oblate


Conical


Oblong


Oblate-conical


Ribbed


Ovate

Amber Crab Fall. Seth Yentes intro, Monroe, ME, 2015. Wild seedling discovered by brothers Mark and Jonathan Fulford about 30 years ago in Monroe. The small 2" fruit is long-stemmed, red-striped and blushed, resembling Chestnut Crab. Not of fresh-eating quality, but may be of great interest to cidermakers. Extremely high in sugar (SG 1.066). Jonathan's stepson Seth Yentes, who has been grafting it in recent years, uses it to make fresh *amber-colored* cider. He says there's nothing like it. On trial in our test orchard. Healthy vigorous tree. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

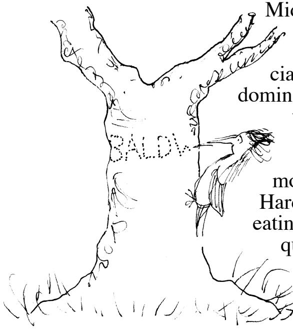
101A Amber Crab, $29.25

Ashmead's Kernel Winter. Unknown parentage. Gloucester, England, about 1700. Possibly a seedling of Nonpareil. An after-dinner apple of unparalleled quality. Not for those who like mild sweet apples. Each bite is an intense aromatic sting of sharp and sweet, with hints of other indescribable but absolutely wonderful tastes and aftertastes. Beginning to show up here and there in commercial orchards. A good sharp addition to hard cider. Medium-small oblate and lopsided orange-gold-green russet fruits ripen in October. Store until New Year to reach perfection. Keeps until they're all gone. Moderately vigorous tree may bear irregularly, but it's worth the wait. Somewhat scab resistant. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. Both are **ME Grown.**

102A Ashmead's Kernel, $29.25
102C Ashmead's Kernel on M111, $29.25

Ashton Bitter Early Fall. Full bittersweet cider apple. Dabinett x Stoke Red. GT Spinks intro, Long Ashton, England, 1947. Early fall astringent cider apple with strong tannin, high sugar (SG 1.060) and low acidity. Medium-sized round opaque orange-yellow fruit, blushed and striped with red. Very juicy. Ripens in early fall, but we've pressed them in late October with good results. Best blended with sharps and other bittersweet varieties. Resurrected from an old Long Ashton trial orchard and planted extensively in recent years in England and the U.S. From 1903 until 2003, Long Ashton Research Station was the British center for the study of cider. Scab free. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

103A Ashton Bitter, $29.25

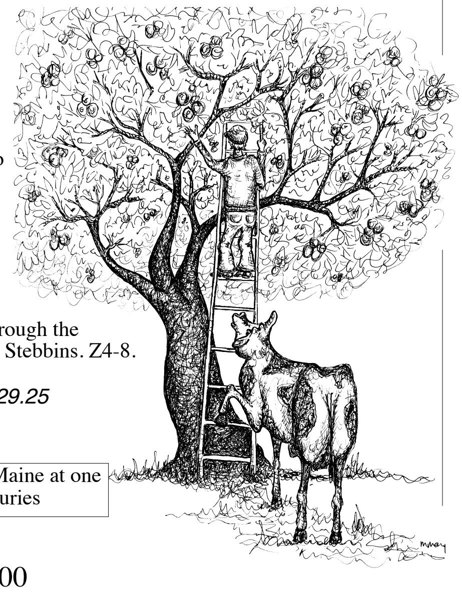


Baldwin Winter. Wilmington, MA, about 1740. Also called **Butters Apple** or **Woodpecker**. Discovered on the Butters Farm by a surveyor planning the Middlesex Canal and noted as a favorite site for local woodpeckers. By 1850 Baldwin was the standard all-purpose home and commercial variety wherever it was grown. It remained dominant in Maine until the terrible winter of 1934 when tens of thousands of trees perished and McIntosh became king. Large round-conic thick-skinned fruit, almost entirely blushed, mottled and striped with red and deep carmine. Hard crisp juicy yellowish flesh makes excellent eating and cooking. Keeps till spring. Makes top-quality hard cider, blended or alone. Vigorous adaptable hugely productive long-lived healthy tree. When grower Dave Gott asked the late renowned entomologist Ron Prokopy his opinion of Baldwin, Ron replied that the apple is "not practical commercially due to biennialism but the *only* apple that is both disease and insect resistant." Blooms early to mid-season. Z4-6. All are **ME Grown.**

104A Baldwin, $29.25
104C Baldwin on M111, $29.25
104D Baldwin on Bud 9, $29.25

Beefsteak Fall. Joel Davis intro, Amesbury, MA, before 1839. One of our great finds of 2013. Very productive Baldwin-like all-purpose Maine heirloom ripens in mid-fall. The owners of the old tree in Lincolnville call it **Freckles** with good reason. The large irregularly ribbed deep rosy-red fruit is freckled with very prominent large white wispy dots. We were happy to call it Freckles but now think it is likely the old Massachusetts apple Beefsteak, brought to Maine about the time of the Civil War and grown throughout the central and midcoast area. Scionwood made available through the generosity of Rose and David Stebbins. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

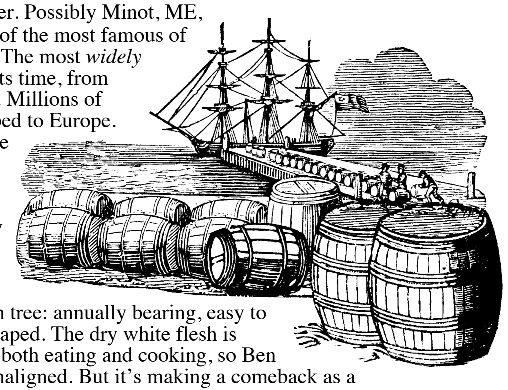
105A Beefsteak, $29.25



ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nursuries

Belle de Boskoop Winter. Bud mutation of Montfort, Boskoop, Holland, 1856. For generations every European backyard had a Boskoop. Even today, chefs in Europe know Boskoop, which cooks and bakes beautifully. Quickly reduces to a nice sauce: yellow, soft and medium tart. Big blocky somewhat ribbed fruit largely patched with green and russet, sometimes with a reddish blush. Grower David Maxwell of Nova Scotia calls it "an absolutely outstanding apple…seemingly resistant to everything. I didn't spray them at all and they are absolutely clean. The taste is equally outstanding." Rather tart right off the tree. In storage the acidity softens and it becomes quite edible fresh. Keeps well. Triploid: not a pollinator for other varieties. Blooms early. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

106A Belle de Boskoop, $29.25

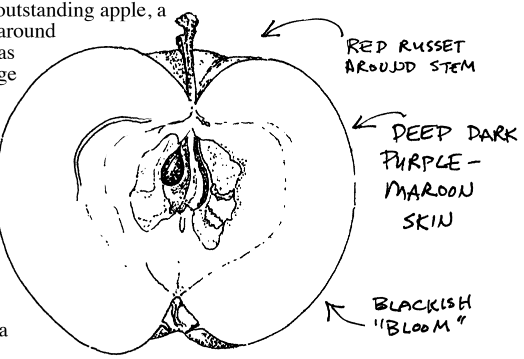


Ben Davis Winter. Possibly Minot, ME, before 1850. One of the most famous of all 19th c. apples. The most *widely* grown variety of its time, from Maine to Georgia. Millions of barrels were shipped to Europe. Many people made their fortunes on this apple. Large roundish-conic fruit, unbelievably beautiful red-striped and blushed. An orchardist's dream tree: annually bearing, easy to grow, perfectly shaped. The dry white flesh is merely decent for both eating and cooking, so Ben Davis was often maligned. But it's making a comeback as a cider apple. While most of the literature says it originated down south, historic town reports suggest it came from right here in Minot, ME. Keeps for months. Mostly scab free. Blooms late season. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

107A Ben Davis, $29.25

Benton Red Winter. Possibly Kennebec County, ME, before 1850. May also be **Pennock** of Delaware County, PA. According to William Bradford in his 1900 University of Maine thesis, Pennock was referred to as Benton Red in central Maine. We agree the two may be one and the same. Very tart all-purpose winter apple, good for everything: eating, cooking, drying, cider and storage. It's one of our favorite apples on the farm. Medium-large fruit, round-conic with smooth shiny skin, mostly bluish pink with red streaks. Keeps all winter. Vigorous annually productive large upright spreading vase-shaped tree. No scab. Scionwood from the old Benton trees. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

108A Benton Red, $29.25



Black Oxford Winter. Unknown parentage. Paris, Oxford County, ME, about 1790. This outstanding apple, a favorite long ago around much of Maine, has been making a huge comeback in the last 20 years. Our best seller until Honeycrisp came along. Medium-sized round fruit, deep purple with a blackish bloom. From a distance you might think you'd discovered a huge plum tree. Excellent pies, superb late cider. Leave the skins on for a delightful pink sauce. Best eating late December to March. They get sweeter and sweeter as the months go by. Good cooking until early summer. Some insect and disease resistance. Unusual light pink blooms, early midseason. Z4-5. All are **ME Grown.** (2-6')

109A Black Oxford, $29.25
109C Black Oxford on M111, $29.25
109D Black Oxford on B9, $29.25

Bourassa Fall. Europe or Quebec before 1750. Very high-quality tender slightly dry dessert fruit with a rich spicy aromatic flavor. Elongated conic in shape, russeted, often with a reddish blush. Not a storage apple but keeps until about December. In 2010, Claude Jolicoeur wrote from Quebec seeking help in finding this mythic apple, which was much loved and well known in Canada even before the Revolution. As late as 1870 it was still popular around Montreal, northern Vermont and Maine. Then it mysteriously disappeared. Not long after I took up the search, Maine fruit explorer Regina Grabrovac sent me fruit from two ancient trees in Dennysville, way downeast, not far from the Canadian border. We'd found it! Z3-6. **ME Grown.**

110A Bourassa, $29.25

Bullock Fall-Winter. Burlington County, NJ, before 1800. Also called **American Golden Russet.** Excellent dessert and cider fruit: mildly subacid (tart), rich, juicy, tender and aromatic. Known in Maine by about the Civil War. For generations all the various russets have been mixed up and interchangeably named. Growers mostly called them all Russets or Golden Russets. Bullock can be distinguished from other Golden Russets primarily by its season and bearing habit. It ripens earlier and keeps until about January. It bears evenly throughout the tree. The other most common russet is the equally excellent Golden Russet *of New York.* That apple, usually called Golden Russet (#**131**), is a tip-bearing variety that ripens later and keeps until late spring. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

112A Bullock, $29.25

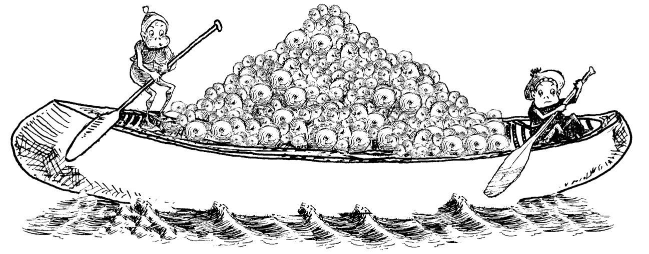
Calville Blanc d'Hiver Winter. Unknown parentage. France or Germany, 16th c. Also called **White Winter Calville**. Famous as a dessert and cooking apple for more than 400 years. Steve Wood of Poverty Lane Orchards in Lebanon, NH, called it "the best culinary apple in the world." Large flattish pale green-yellow fruit with deep ribs and a dotted orange-red blush. Creamy-white aromatic fine-grained juicy flesh with a sweet distinctive effervescent flavor. Also recommended for vinegar, fresh cider and as a sharp (acid) component in fermented cider. Should be stored a month to reach peak flavor. Will keep until midwinter. Very vigorous strongly upright vase-shaped tree with good branch angles. Not for coldest areas though certainly hardy to Zone 4. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. Both **ME Grown.**

113A Calville Blanc d'Hiver, $29.25

113C Calville Blanc d'Hiver on M111, $29.25

Apple Collections

Each collection chosen by Fedco's John Bunker and may include varieties not listed in this catalog. Trees are individually labeled within each bundle.



Hard Cider Apple Collection **A bundle of 5** trees to begin your cider orchard. Contains 2–3 sharps or bittersharps, and 2–3 bittersweets. Includes 5 different varieties. **ME Grown.**

227A Hard Cider Apple Collection, bundle of 5, $135.00

Hard Cider Apple Bittersweet Collection **A bundle of 10** bittersweet trees to begin your cider orchard. Includes at least 3 different bittersweet varieties. **ME Grown.**

228A Bittersweet Collection, bundle of 10, $260.00

Hard Cider Apple Bittersweet Collection **A bundle of 25** bittersweet trees to begin your cider orchard. Includes at least 3 different bittersweet varieties. Note that purchasing one of these bundles will give you an additional 15% discount. See the order sheet for details. **ME Grown.**

229A Bittersweet Collection, bundle of 25, $625.00

Heritage Apple Collection **A bundle of 5** trees to begin your own heritage orchard. Includes 5 different heirlooms traditionally grown in northern New England. **ME Grown.**

230A Heritage Apple Collection, bundle of 5, $135.00

Heritage Apple Collection **A bundle of 10** trees for your heritage orchard. Includes 10 different heirlooms traditionally grown in northern New England. **ME Grown.**

231A Heritage Apple Collection, bundle of 10, $260.00

Rootstocks

We offer most apple varieties on standard-sized Antonovka rootstock. Where

A follows the item number in the apple section, the variety is on standard rootstock.

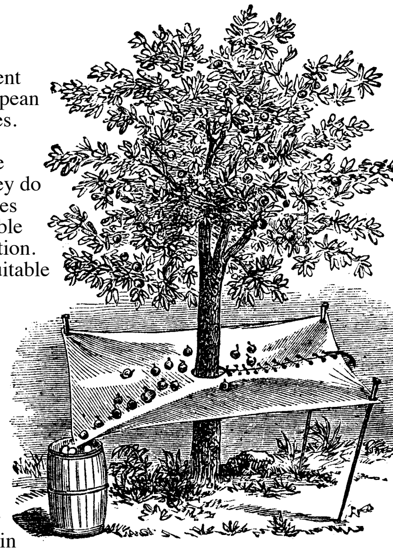
B indicates the variety is on Bud 118 rootstock,

C indicates M111, and

D is Bud 9.

For more about rootstock, see pages 9 and 20.

Cider Apples



Cider Apples

Each year we offer a different assortment of the best European and American cider varieties. Many of these are NOT for fresh eating. Please note the descriptions for details. They do however possess the qualities that make them very desirable for ***fermented*** cider production. We also offer crabapples suitable for cider. See the crabapple section, pages 48-49, for descriptions.

It's All in the Mix!

"From the great diversity of soil and climate in the United States of America, and the almost endless variety of its apples, it followed that much diversity of taste and flavor will be necessarily found in the cider that is made from them." Colin MacKenzie, 1829.

For the best cider, plant several varieties. That's because when it comes to cider, it's all in the mix. Unlike beer, cider has only one ingredient: apples. So the apples have to provide everything: acidity, sugar, tannin and flavor.

We classify the cider varieties into four categories: **sharp** (low in tannins, high in acid), **sweet** (high in sugar, little or no tannin, low acid), **bittersharp** (high in tannins and high acid) and **bittersweet** (high tannins and sugar, low acid). **Tannin** denotes naturally occurring compounds whose bitter astringency gives rounded full flavor, body and golden color. Is there a difference between **bitterness** and **astringency**? An excellent 2012 University of Reading (England) publication titled *Sustainable Cider Apple Production* attempts to define them: "Astringency is a drying, puckering sensation in the mouth in which the whole tongue is affected, while bitterness is mostly perceived at the sides and back of the tongue."

Vintage refers to those varieties that possess the perfect qualities for cider.

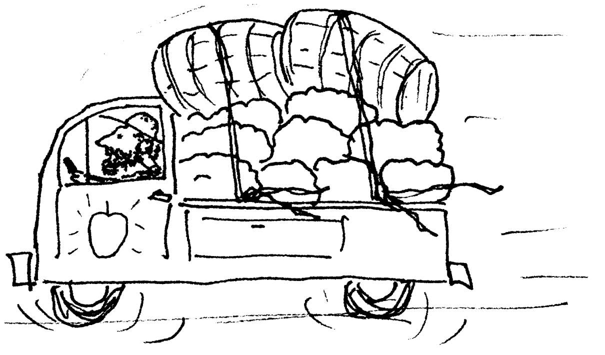
We recommend you plant some sharp apples for acidity, some sweet apples for sugar and some bitter apples for the tannin. See the chart on p. 8 for suggestions. Our best cider has been from about 40% bittersweet (astringent) apples and 60% mixed dessert and cooking apples.

Cider Reading

Two good basic books are *Cider, Hard and Sweet* by Ben Watson and *Cider: Making, Using and Enjoying Sweet and Hard Cider* by Annie Proulx and Lew Nichols. *The New Cidermaker's Handbook* by Claude Jolicoeur takes cidermaking to a more advanced level. If you're considering a trip to the cider orchards of England or France, or just want to know more about their ciders, try *Ciderland* by James Crowden (English cider) and *Calvados: The Spirit of Normandy* by Charles Neal (French cider). The best book on English cider varieties is *Cider Apples: The New Pomona* by Liz Copas. For French cider varieties, the best is *Pommiers à cidre: variétés de France* by JM Boré and J Fleckinger (in French only).

Commercial Cider Orchards

For those planting large quantities of cider apples, please be in touch about special pricing.



For the ultimate cider experience join us at the 21st annual CiderDays festival in Franklin County, MA, on November 7–8, 2015. A weekend of workshops, panels, orchard tours, tastings, dinners and everything cider. If you are into apples and cider, it is just the thing for you. Join Fedco's John Bunker and cider enthusiasts and celebrities from all over the U.S. and Canada for an educational—and very fun—weekend.

Chestnut Early Fall. MN 240 (Malinda x open-pollinated) U Minn, 1946. Lots of people love this apple. Golf-ball–sized fruit with truly excellent fresh-eating qualities. Yellow and bronze-red skin with some russeting. Firm crisp juicy fine-grained very sweet yellowish flesh. Fabulous complex flavor in a small package. For a growing number of people in central Maine, late September is Chestnut apple time. For years we've put out a bushel a day at Fedco's Common Ground Fair booth and watched them disappear. Neophytes often look at the little fruit with disdain, but most take one bite and their frowns turn to smiles. Chestnut needs no sugar to make a sweet and subtle sauce. Stores about a month. Medium-sized productive tree bears annually. Disease resistant. Blooms midseason. Z3-5. **ME Grown**.

115A Chestnut, $29.25

Cole's Quince Summer. Introduced by Captain Henry Cole, Cornish, ME, about 1840. Large flattish-conical ribbed bright yellow fruit often with a brownish blush. This is my favorite midsummer cooking apple. In central Maine they ripen toward the end of August. Still good into mid-September. Unlike many other summer varieties, you can ripen them on the tree and let them drop. They won't rot if you blink a couple times. In the morning I go out to the tree, pick up the four or five that dropped overnight and put them to use. They cook up quick into morning applesauce. Delicious with oatmeal. They also make an excellent pie. Productive and mostly annual. Blooms early. Z4-6. **ME Grown**.

117A Cole's Quince, $29.25

Cortland Fall-Winter. (Ben Davis x McIntosh) NY Stn, 1915. Although never as important as McIntosh, Cortland remains very popular throughout northern New England even in this era of many new introductions. Medium-large slightly ribbed dull red fruit with a purple blush. Excellent eating and cooking. Slow-oxidizing white flesh is very good in salads; fine-grained, crisp, tender, juicy. Produces a surprisingly delightful cider, fresh or fermented, in a mix or even on its own. Vigorous tall upright spreading tree. Annual producer of heavy crops. A recent U Mass study showed resistance to apple maggot fly. Bears young; remove fruit for the first year or two to avoid stunting growth. Susceptible to scab. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. All are **ME Grown**.

119A Cortland, $29.25
119C Cortland on M111, $29.25
119D Cortland on B9, $29.25

Cox's Orange Pippin Fall. Possibly a seedling of Ribston Pippin. Near Slough, Bucks, England, around 1825. Deservedly one of the three or four most famous of all apples. Not only one of the best eating apples ever but also one of the most sought-after in modern apple breeding; parent or grandparent of many other varieties. Revered in the U.K. Medium-sized all-purpose aromatic fruit is red-orange to red with orange russet striping and wash. Perfectly balanced slightly subacid flavor and crisp juicy tender flesh improve with storage. Moderately vigorous moderately productive tree bears young and annually. Prefers cooler climates and higher pH (6.5–7.5+). The oldest Maine Cox's I know is about 40 years old, thriving in Mercer, Zone 4. Scab resistant. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown**.

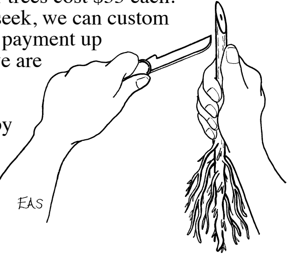
120A Cox's Orange Pippin, $29.25
120C Cox's Orange Pippin on M111, $29.25

Special Orders and Custom Grafting

Small orders: If you are looking for a variety not listed here, we may have it in one of our nurseries. These special-order trees cost $35 each. If we don't currently have the variety you seek, we can custom graft it for you for $50 each. In both cases, payment up front is required. You will be refunded if we are unsuccessful in acquiring the tree.

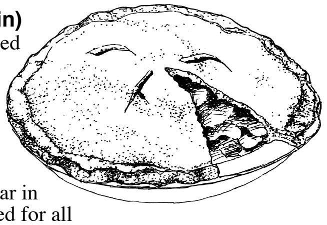
Large orders: If you are interested in planting a large orchard, we would be happy to custom graft the varieties you want onto the rootstock of your choice.

Please contact us for details: write, call or send an email to: **trees@fedcoseeds.com.** We'd be pleased to work with you as you plan your orchard.



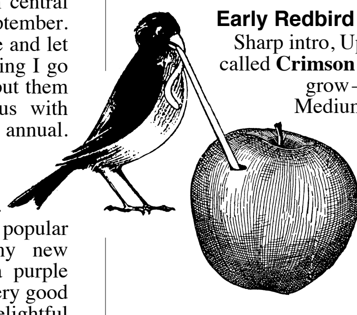
Dabinett Late Fall. Medium-bittersweet cider apple. Probably a seedling of Chisel Jersey. Middle Lambrook, Somerset, England. (SG 1.057, acidity 1.8g/L, tannin 2.9g/L) One of the most popular cider varieties in Somerset today and one of the mainstays of Poverty Lane Cider Orchards. At a MOFGA workshop, Steve Wood of Poverty Lane and Farnum Hill Ciders said, "If you're going to plant one bittersweet, plant this one." Medium-sized roundish fruit covered with brownish brick-red stripes and blush. Sugar content fair and fermentation moderate. High-quality well-balanced low-acid cider with a soft-tasting tannin. Picked last week of October, usually blended with other late varieties. Crops annually. Grower-friendly tree with a spreading drooping habit may require help in developing a strong central leader. Not pollen compatible with Chisel Jersey. Midseason bloom. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown**.

121A Dabinett, $29.25
121C Dabinett on M111, $29.25



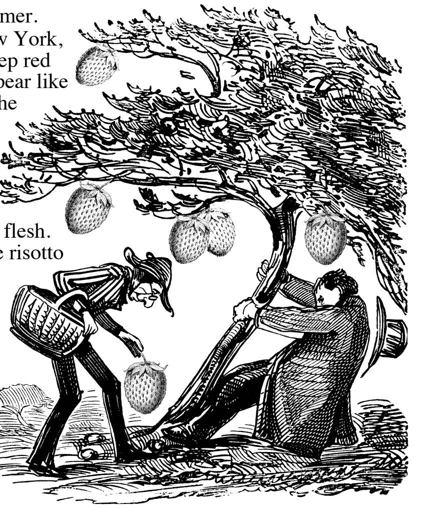
Duchess of Oldenburg (Red Strain) Late Summer. Russia, 17th c. Also called **Duchess**. Imported in 1835 with the first wave of Russian apples and named to honor Catherine Pavlovna, Grand Duchess of Oldenburg, sister of Czar Alexander. Duchess was planted extensively wherever growers needed extreme hardiness. It's still quite popular in northern New England. Highly esteemed for all sorts of cooking; Duchess is one of the best of all pie apples. Cooks up quickly into a creamy delicious sauce. Medium-sized round red-striped fruit. Firm fine-grained crisp tender juicy subacid aromatic flesh. Small to medium-sized adaptable tree. May not do well in warmer districts. Duchess seedlings are used as an extremely hardy rootstock called Borowinka. Scab resistant. Blooms early-midseason. Z3-4.

123A Duchess Red Strain, $29.25



Early Redbird Midsummer. New Brunswicker x Fameuse. Francis Sharp intro, Upper Woodstock, New Brunswick, about 1850. Also called **Crimson Beauty** and **Scarlet Pippin**. The earliest variety we grow—ready to eat the last week of July in central Maine. Medium-small roundish red fruit. Tart fresh eating. Crisp if you catch them just before they drop. Cooks into orange-pink thick creamy sauce in six minutes. Long ago popular throughout Maine. Bred by the eccentric genius Francis Peabody Sharp (1823-1903), the key figure in bringing fruit-growing to northern Maine. He bred and tested thousands of apples, plums and other fruits. Z3-5. **ME Grown**.

124A Early Redbird, $29.25



Early Strawberry Summer. Unknown parentage, New York, before 1835. Smallish deep red fruits with russet dots appear like Sparkle strawberries on the tree. Delicious summer dessert apple, the perfect savory balance between sweet and tart with lots of flavor. Red-tinged firm-textured flesh. Great for cooking—apple risotto with root vegetables, or added to a stuffing. Traditionally grown throughout central and southern Maine and the rest of New York and New England. Our scionwood comes from an ancient roadside tree we discovered nearby in Searsmont. Blooms midseason. Z4-8. **ME Grown**.

125A Early Strawberry, $29.25

Ellis Bitter Early Fall. Medium-bittersweet cider apple. Newton St Cyres, Devon, Somerset, England. Large oddly conic fruit—sometimes ribbed—mostly striped and blushed with red. White-fleshed, sweet, crisp and juicy. Soft, astringent, tannin. (SG 1.053, acidity 2g/L, tannin 2.4g/L) Particularly useful for its early ripening. Blend with other early dessert apples or cider varieties. You can also ferment it alone and blend it later with the late apples. Still grown in England's West Country cider orchards and now being planted in the U.S. Large spreading vigorous tree produces regularly. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown**.

126C Ellis Bitter on M111, $29.25

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nursuries

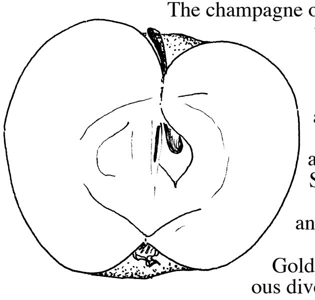
Esopus Spitzenburg Fall-Winter. Esopus, NY, before 1776. For more than 200 years "Spitz" has been a choice dessert and culinary variety, mentioned in nearly every list of best-flavored apples. Slightly subacid, crisp and juicy. Excellent acid source for sweet or fermented cider. Medium-large bright red round-conic fruit, covered with russet dots. Moderately vigorous tree with easily trained wide-angle branches. Forever famous as Thomas Jefferson's favorite apple though it vastly prefers New York and New England to Virginia. Moderately susceptible to scab though we have never sprayed ours with fungicides and the fruit has been great. Blooms mid-late season. Z4-7. Both **ME Grown.**

127A Esopus Spitzenburg, $29.25
127C Esopus Spitzenburg on M111, $29.25

Fall Pippin Fall-Winter. Seedling of Holland Pippin or White Spanish Reinette, from somewhere in New England before 1750. One of the oldest American varieties. High-quality prolific all-purpose apple dating from back when apples were passed around freely and no one cared much about who called it what. Fall Pippin had more than two dozen synonyms. The yellow fruit is mostly round and covered with small dots and a russet stem splash. Very good dessert quality. Makes a nice loose sauce. In October 2013 I visited a gigantic ancient specimen in central Connecticut, still bearing huge crops. I didn't want to leave. Our scionwood came from that incredible tree, made available through the generosity of the D'Appollonio family. Blooms midseason. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

128A Fall Pippin, $29.25

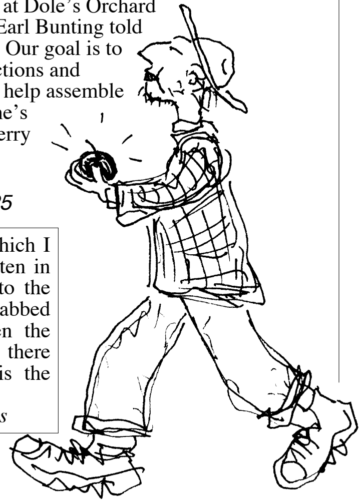
Golden Russet Winter. Uncertain origin. Thought to be from England, New York or New England, before 1800. Round medium-sized russet fruit. The champagne of cider apples, ripening late in fall when the best sweet cider is ready to be made: sweet, balanced, thick and smooth. Also recommended as a sharp component for fermented cider. Excellent eating; keeps all winter and well into spring. For more than 100 years, orchardists have been attempting to sort out the various russets. Several different apples have been called Golden Russet. Most resemble one another visually but differ in fruit qualities and tree habits. This is most likely the Golden Russet of Western New York. Vigorous diverging upcurving tree with long willowy branches. Scab resistant. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-6. Both **ME Grown.**



131A Golden Russet, $29.25
131C Golden Russet on M111, $29.25

Golden Spy Fall-Winter. Golden Delicious x Northern Spy. Russell M. Bailey, U Maine, c. 1940. Northern Spy type with excellent flavor. Appearance is similar to Spy but with a narrower blossom end and a pink blush. Developed by U Maine's Russell Bailey but never named and released. Golden Spy was put out for trial at Dole's Orchard in Limington about 60 years ago. Owner Earl Bunting told me the apple has "better flavor than Spy." Our goal is to track down all of Bailey's numbered selections and introduce them to the public, as well as to help assemble a Bailey orchard at Highmoor Farm, Maine's Ag research facility in Monmouth. Raspberry Spy (#**165C**) is another Bailey selection. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

132C Golden Spy on M111, $29.25



> It is remarkable that the wild apple, which I praise as so spirited and racy when eaten in the fields or woods, being brought into the house, has frequently a harsh and crabbed taste. The Saunterer's Apple not even the saunterer can eat in the house … for there you miss the November air, which is the sauce it is to be eaten with.
>
> –Henry David Thoreau, *Wild Fruits*

GoldRush Winter. Co-op 38 {PRI 2750-6 [Co-op 17 (PRI 1689-100) x Golden Delicious]} Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois (PRI) Co-op, 1994. The first of the new PRI disease-resistant varieties has superior storage qualities. Medium-to-large round-conic fruit has uniform deep greenish-yellow opaque chewy skin that turns golden in storage. Creamy white green-flecked flesh is hard, very crisp, juicy and tart. Excellent flavor. Serve them for dessert in February and March and no one will be disappointed. Ripens very late in fall, but will usually do so successfully in central Maine. Keeps until early May in the root cellar. Very precocious. Highly resistant to scab and powdery mildew. Moderate fireblight resistance. Moderately vigorous tree with a strong central leader. Blooms mid-late. Z4-9. Both are **ME Grown.**

133A GoldRush, $29.25 *133C GoldRush on M111, $29.25*

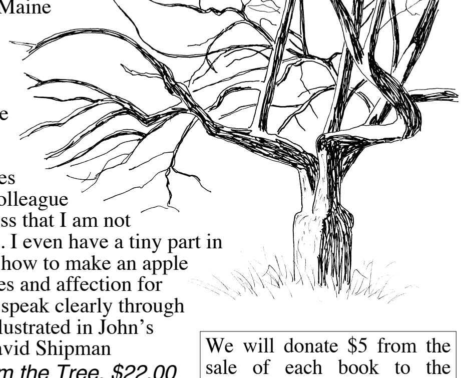
Gray Pearmain Fall-Winter. Probably Skowhegan, ME, before 1870. Absolutely delicious dessert (fresh eating) apple with a distinct pear flavor and firm white juicy mildly tart flesh. Steadily gaining a devoted following. Medium-sized slightly ribbed and muffin-shaped fruit has a soft opaque greenish-yellow skin with a rosy pink blush, a russet veil, and a greyish bloom. Produces excellent juice. Pick late and eat them in the fall and all winter. Until recently the only trees we knew of were at The Apple Farm in Fairfield, across the line from Skowhegan. Through the generosity of the Meyerhans, the Gray Pearmain is now being grown throughout Maine and beyond. Annually bearing easy-to-grow medium-sized spreading tree. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

136A Gray Pearmain, $29.25

Grimes Golden Fall. Unknown parentage. West Virginia, c. 1804. All-around excellent variety grown in old Maine orchards for more than 100 years. Medium-sized roundish fruit with opaque yellow skin, scattered with grey russet dots and an occasional faint blush. Thought to be a parent of Golden Delicious. Tart citrusy crisp dense firm fruit is excellent for dessert and cooking: wonderful spicy fresh eating and splendid applesauce. Makes a thick sweet cider and a good single-variety hard cider: light and fruity. In Central Maine they begin to ripen and drop in mid-October. We collect them off the ground and use them up. Around November 1 we pick the bulk of the crop and store them in the root cellar until spring. Productive precocious tree bears annually. Highly recommended. Z4-6. Both **ME Grown.**

137A Grimes Golden, $29.25
137C Grimes Golden on M111, $29.25

Not Far from the Tree: A Brief History of the Apples and the Orchards of Palermo, Maine, 1804-2004 by John Bunker, 200 pages, 8½ x 11, softcover. John reveals how he came to know so much about apples—he spent years talking to his neighbors in Palermo, listening to their stories and walking their fields and orchards learning the varieties, how they came to be planted there and why. His engaging narrative and entertaining and informative drawings take us into the rich diverse past of a seemingly unremarkable town. A wonderful lesson in the history of Maine agriculture told in the apple trees. Many long abandoned and all but forgotten, some nursed back to health, and some finding new life as scionwood that begets generations of apple trees from Fedco. John is a colleague and a friend and I confess that I am not a disinterested reviewer. I even have a tiny part in his story—I taught him how to make an apple pie. John's love of apples and affection for his neighbors and town speak clearly through each page. Copiously illustrated in John's unmistakable style. –David Shipman

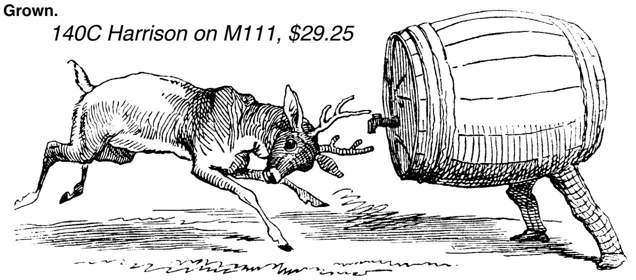


L619A Not Far From the Tree, $22.00

We will donate $5 from the sale of each book to the Palermo Historical Society.

Harrison Mid-Late Fall. Vintage cider apple. Unknown parentage. South Orange, Essex County, NJ, as early as 1712. One of the most renowned American cider apples, dating from the early days of domestic cidermaking. Harrison cider was famous and considered to be better than champagne. Medium-small oval yellow-skinned fruit. Rich firm dry yellow flesh. According to William Coxe in 1817, it makes a "high coloured, rich, and sweet cider of great strength, commanding a high price in New-York, frequently ten dollars and upwards per barrell." Vigorous productive tree. A Harrison revival is underway in several locations on the East Coast. Performing well our central-Maine trials. Appears to be plenty hardy. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

140C Harrison on M111, $29.25



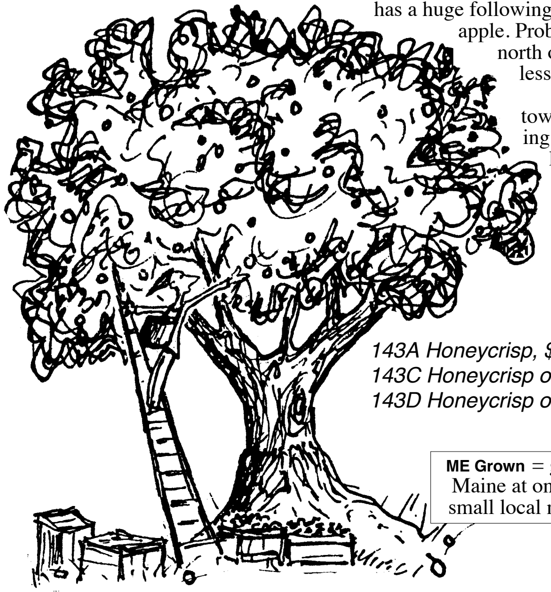
Harry Masters Jersey Fall. Medium-full bittersweet cider apple. Often called **Port Wine** in north Somerset. Probably introduced by Harry Masters, Yarlington Mill, Woolston, Somerset, England, before 1900. High-quality bittersweet variety recommended for blending with other fall varieties. Soft astringent tannin. (SG 1.056, acidity 2g/L, tannin 3.2g/L) Becoming popular commercially in New England in recent years. One of the mainstays of Farnum Hill Cider. Medium-large oblate-conic fruit, mostly covered with bright red stripes and blush, and a splash of yellow russet around the stem. Harry Masters himself was the miller at Yarlington Mill. Harry Masters Jersey and Yarlington Mill are thought to be of the same parentage. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. Both are **ME Grown.**

141A Harry Masters Jersey, $29.25
141C Harry Masters Jersey on M111, $29.25

Hewe's Virginia Crab Fall. Possibly a seedling of the native *M. coronaria* var. *angustifolia*. Probably Virginia about 1700. One of the most prized of all American cider apples. So important was the apple that in his 1817 *A View of the Cultivation of Fruit Trees*, William Coxe devoted an entire chapter to making cider with Hewe's. The red-skinned white-spotted fruit is small, round, juicy, tough, astringent and acidic. According to AJ Downing in 1848, Hewe's "makes a very high flavoured high dry cider, which, by connoisseurs, is thought unsurpassed in flavour by any other." The fruit is small—you may want to plant several! Quite hardy despite its name. Long ago used as a rootstock even as far north as Maine. Blooms midseason. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

142A Hewe's Virginia Crab, $29.25

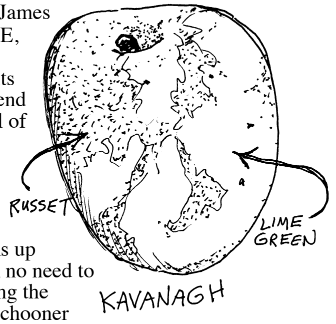
Honeycrisp Winter. MN 1711 (Keepsake x open-pollinated) U Minn, 1991. Medium-large fruit, mottled and striped red over yellow. Sweet and juicy with hard snapping-crisp texture. Top quality in September. Improves steadily in storage. Unusual because it ripens in early fall yet keeps up to seven months in the root cellar. First of the many excellent University of Minnesota introductions to receive large-scale commercial attention, now has a huge following. Our best-selling apple. Probably best planted north of Massachusetts; less suited to warmer districts. Tends towards annual bearing. Relatively small low-vigor upright spreading tree. Above-average scab resistance. Blooms mid-late season. Z3-4. All are **ME Grown.**



143A Honeycrisp, $29.25
143C Honeycrisp on M111, $29.25
143D Honeycrisp on Bud 9 $29.25

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Kavanagh Fall. Unknown parentage. James Kavanagh intro, Damariscotta Mills, ME, 1790. This unforgettable large apple is sometimes called **Cathead** because of its distinctive cat-like shape: a large stem end tapering to a small blossom end, typical of some Irish varieties. About half russet and half deep rich lime green. Slightly yellow flesh is mild, moderately crisp, moderately tart and subtle. Good fall and early winter eating, excellent for cooking and drying. Even frying. Foams up quickly into a wonderful creamy sauce, no need to remove the skins. Popular ages ago along the Maine coastal peninsulas, anywhere a schooner could land. Featured last year in an extensive *Maine Sunday Telegram* article. Finally making its comeback! Blooms late. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



146A Kavanagh, $29.25

Kilham Hill Fall. Daniel Kilham intro, Wenham, Essex County, MA, before 1826. Large roundish-conic striped red all-purpose fall fruit. Sprightly subacid. Long ago said to be grown in *every* Waldo County orchard. Being from Waldo County, I figured I better get out there and find it. After years of searching, I was blessed with a visit from fellow fruit explorer Snee Anthony with an apple for me to ID. I took one look and knew she'd found it. My next task is to reintroduce it to everyone in the county. The old tree toppled over last winter but it's still bearing this year. Its scionwood made possible through the generosity of John and Wendy Kreuger from—where else?—Waldo County! Does not keep. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

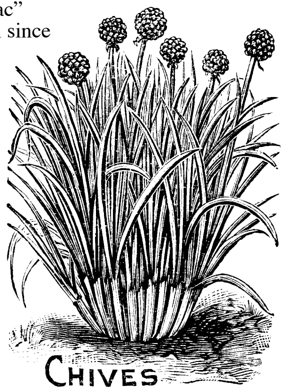
147A Kilham Hill, $29.25

Kingston Black Fall. Bittersharp cider apple. Unknown parentage. Somerset, England, early 19th c. High in tannin and acidity. (SG 1.061, acidity 5.8g/L, tannin 1.9g/L) Produces full-bodied vintage cider with a nice blend of acid, tannins and sugar. One of the few varieties that makes a high-quality *single variety* hard cider, also good in a blend. We've become fans of Farnum Hill's tasty Kingston Black varietal. Now we make it ourselves. Also makes superb fresh cider. Even the fresh juice is a deep rich dark color. Medium-sized conical beautiful rich red fruit, mottled with red russet and deeper shades of maroon. Fairly decent fresh eating. The tree is a reliable bearer, but is gangly and needs careful pruning. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown.**

148A Kingston Black, $29.25
148C Kingston Black on M111, $29.25

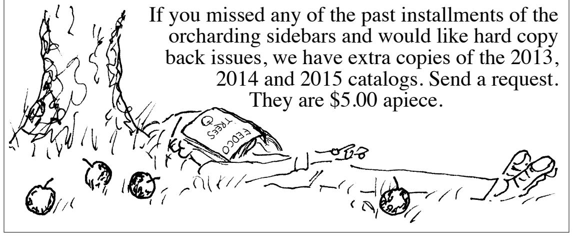
Scab and Chives

Scab is the worst fungal disease affecting apples in New England. You can greatly reduce scab pressure by avoiding McIntosh, Cortland, Fameuse and any "Mac" relatives. But this is a tough call since they are all excellent varieties. You can also reduce scab pressure by picking up drops, cleaning up or mowing fallen foliage in the fall, and spreading a thin bit of lime and/or compost over the fallen foliage in the fall. There are reports that planting chives around apple trees and using chive infusion as a spray will reduce scab pressure. We've been doing so and will give you a report before long. At the very least, we'll have plenty for our cottage cheese, salads and baked potatoes.

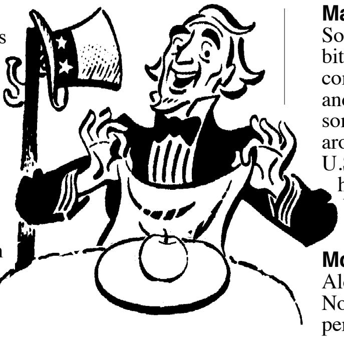


Chive Infusion Spray Recipe

Pour 1 quart boiling water over 1 cup chopped chives. Cover and set aside to cool. Strain and use the liquid within 4 hours.



If you missed any of the past installments of the orcharding sidebars and would like hard copy back issues, we have extra copies of the 2013, 2014 and 2015 catalogs. Send a request. They are $5.00 apiece.

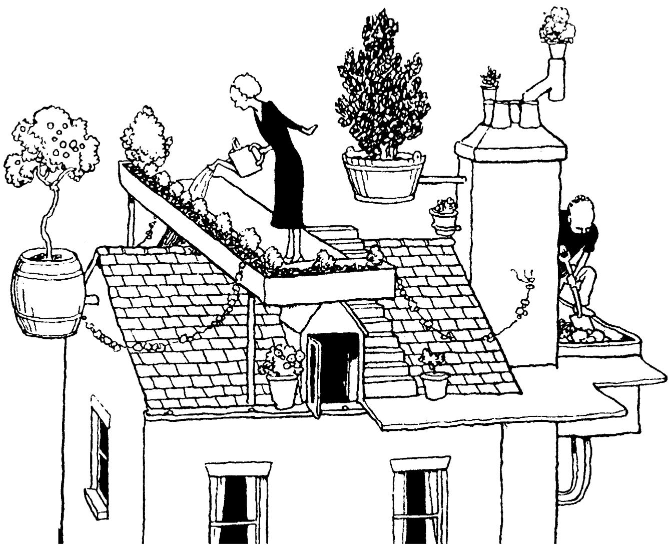


Liberty Late Summer-Fall. NY 55140-19 [Macoun x PRI 54-12 (PRI Co-op complex cross includes Rome Beauty, Jersey Black, McIntosh, Wealthy and *M. floribunda*)] NY Stn, 1978. One of the best of the disease-resistant varieties, particularly in the Northeast. Somewhat similar to Macoun. Handsome medium-sized round-conic bluish-pinkish-red apple with crisp white flesh of very good dessert quality when dead ripe. Excellent cooking and sweet cider, too. Recommended for single-variety sweet cider. Keeps till late fall. Begins fruit production at an early age, bearing consistent heavy annual crops. Naturally well-structured sturdy tree is easy to care for. Considered to be 100% scab-immune, though not resistant to insects or other lesser apple diseases. Don't let it crop too heavily at a young age. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-6. All are **ME Grown.**

149A Liberty, $29.25
149C Liberty on M111, $29.25
149D Liberty on Bud 9, $29.25

Lincolnville Russet Fall. Possibly Northport or Lincolnville, ME, before 1880. A large citrusy tart sour juicy dense rough-skinned russet. Very good flavorful late fall dessert quality. Good cooking. Could be an excellent cider apple. Another Snee Anthony discovery. About 30 years ago she rescued the apple from near the famous old haunted house on Route 52. The ancient tree is gone but fortunately she gave us scionwood and we grafted a tree now thriving in our orchard. Still not conclusively identified. For now we call it Lincolville Russet, though I've narrowed it down to three old obscure Mainers: Banana Russet, Monstrous Russet or possibly even Jerry Brown (not *that* Jerry Brown). No scab. Blooms midseason. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

150A Lincolnville Russet, $29.25



Wassail!

Not long ago you'd be hard pressed to find *hard* cider for sale anywhere in the US. Now cider is making its comeback. You can buy it in every Mom and Pop grocery store in Maine. Cideries, cider bars and tasting rooms are popping up wherever apples are grown. At last count there were thirteen commercial ciders being produced in Maine with more on the way.

Now in its 21st year, Franklin County Cider Days in western Mass has become a major annual attraction. Six years ago the Cider Project was launched in New York, followed a year later by New York's Cider Week, now an annual event as well. One thing led to another and the cider-focused restaurant called Wassail was born last spring on—where else?—Orchard Street in the Lower East Side.

In Maine we celebrate Wassail once a year on a cold night in January. We congregate by a big fire and then sing and dance around the apple trees in the orchard. But with 8 million people in *the* Big Apple, Wassail down there needed to be full time.

Wassail and the nearby Jimmy's No 43 have become urban focal points for cider lovers and cidermakers. Both offer multiple ciders at their bars and both host regular cider-related events. Last June, Cammy and I went to see for ourselves. I gave a talk to a very enthusiastic house at Wassail. We also enjoyed the food and of course we had to try the cocktail called Bunker's Love Affair. Next day I did a radio interview and attended an amateur cider tasting over at Jimmy's. It was a great way to see the city.

Next time you're planning an apple vacation try New York. The 2015 Cider Week will be November 6–15. For information about other cider-related events, check out wassailnyc.com and jimmysno43.com. Wassail!

Major Early Fall. Full-bittersweet cider apple. Probably originated in central Somerset County, England, before 1900. Sweet, soft, woolly, juicy and bitter. (SG 1.054, acidity 1.8g/L, tannin 4.1g/L) Recommended for combining with other early cider varieties such as Ashton Bitter, Ellis Bitter and Nehou. Medium-sized pinkish-rosy-red roundish-oblate-conic fruit, sometimes ribbed and usually featuring a small yellowish russet splash around the stem. One of the English varieties now becoming popular in the U.S. Vigorous tree with a good central leader and a spreading branching habit. Similar to other Jersey-type cider varieties. Scab resistant. Late blooming. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

152A Major, $29.25

McIntosh Fall. Possibly a seedling of Fameuse or perhaps St. Lawrence x Alexander. Dundela, Ontario, 1811. The most important apple in the Northeast. Although not planted in many other locations, it grows to perfection in our cool climate. There are many strains of McIntosh, some striped, some blushed, some solid red. Recent strains have been selected for traits other than flavor, and the variety has gotten a bad reputation. This strain has green ground color overlaid with red stripes and blush. It was planted in 1906 in Mercer, ME. It has the best "Mac" taste. A delicious aromatic apple. Annual cropper. Large beautifully rounded spreading strong easily managed tree. Very susceptible to scab. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. All are **ME Grown.**

154A McIntosh, $29.25
154C McIntosh on M111, $29.25
154D McIntosh on Bud 9, $29.25

Milo Gibson Fall. Unknown origin, possibly Oregon, early 20th c. Highly flavored dessert variety. Not for those who like mild-flavored fruit. Delicious licorice taste with hints of banana. As intensely flavorful in most years as Frostbite, King David and Sweet Sixteen. Flesh is dense and firm. Keeps till the New Year. Large roundish form, muted yellow, mostly blushed red and overlaid with stripes of darker red. The history of this apple is somehow connected with the much-revered Milo Gibson (1905-1974), one of the founders of North American Fruit Explorers (NAFEX) in the late 1960s. Was it one of his creations or a tribute by an admirer? We may never know. But it's a great apple. Blooms late. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

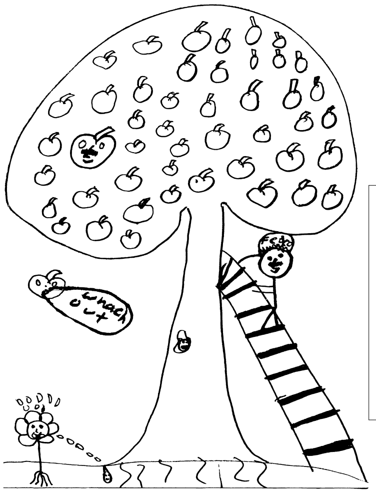
156A Milo Gibson, $29.25

Moses Wood Summer. Moses Wood intro, Winthrop, ME, before 1830. If you're like Gene and won't eat apples that aren't tart, this may be the variety for you. Late-summer dessert and cooking apple. White medium- to fine-grained tender very juicy flesh, definitely *subacid*. Excellent tart fresh eating. That tartness also adds a superb kick to an early season pie. Fruit is medium-sized, roundish to conic with distinct ribbing and a crown around the blossom end. Pink blushed and red striped. Vigorous upright productive tree. Named for the itinerant Winthrop grafter who traveled on horseback spreading apple varieties around central Maine long before the days of Fedco. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

157A Moses Wood, $29.25

Mother Fall. General Stephen P. Gardner intro, Bolton, MA, before 1811. Originally named **American Mother.** Also known as **Queen Anne** and **Gardeners Apple**. Famous early-American dessert apple for the connoisseur. Crisp, juicy, tender, mildly subacid and aromatic. A pleasant sweet "balsamic aroma." Medium-large roundish-conic fruit, colored with muted reds and oranges and a thousand tiny russet dots. General Gardner was a prominent Bolton entrepreneur on the old road between Boston and Greenfield, in what was to become the epicenter of Massachusetts orcharding. There are still almost a dozen orchards in the Bolton area. Keeps into January. Blooms mid-late season. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

158A Mother, $29.25



Orchard Ladders

Sturdy lightweight traditionally shaped wooden orchard ladders have wide bottoms for stability and narrow tops for easy handling and placement.
Contact the manufacturer:
Peter Baldwin
(207) 722-3654
baldwin@acadia.net

Nehou Early Fall. Full bittersweet cider apple. Probably from Nehou, Normandy, France, before 1900. Introduced by HP Bulmer Ltd, Hereford, England, c. 1920. Best for blending with other early fall ripeners. Roundish-conic medium-sized yellow fruit, often with a pinkish blush. Soft, juicy, low-acid, sweet and astringent. (SG 1.057, acidity 1.7g/L, tannin 6g/L) Probably brought from France long ago and renamed. Although called Nehou in English cider literature, as far as we can tell, there's no French cider apple by that name. Boré and Fleckinger's comprehensive *Pommiers à cidre: variétés de France* has no listing. Midseason bloomer. Z4-7. **ME Grown**.

159A Nehou, $29.25

Niedzwetzkyana Fall. *M. pumila* Discovered by NE Hansen in Kazakhstan, 1896, or possibly by George Dieck in Siberia, 1891. Of great importance in apple breeding, considered to be the original source for nearly all red-fleshed and pink-flowered apples. Red flowers, reddish foliage and 2" red-fleshed fruit. Dark red skin with a small russeted stem area and a scattering of pinpoint white dots. The flesh fades from whitish to solid pink. Probably too tart for fresh eating but recommended for cider, pies and sauce. John Fiala says that Niedzwetzkyana and Almata may be identical, but I think not. For a decent attempt to sort it all out, see Fiala's book, *Flowering Crabapples*. Scab prone. Blooms early. Z4-7. **ME Grown**.

160C Niedzwetzkyana on M111, $29.25

Northern Spy Winter. Chance seedling. East Bloomfield, NY, about 1800. One of the most famous of all heirloom apples. Very large delectable all-purpose fruit, covered with pink and light red stripes. Very juicy and tender. Even when the thin skin bruises, the fruit keeps extremely well. Cooks up quickly into a loose mild sauce. No need to remove the skins. Its reputation as a pie apple is more than well deserved: makes a very good single-variety pie! Its one drawback is being slow to come into bearing, although for us it's been worth the wait. Medium-to-large moderately vigorous long-lived tree. Good scab resistance. Leafs out late and blooms late season. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown**.

162A Northern Spy, $29.25

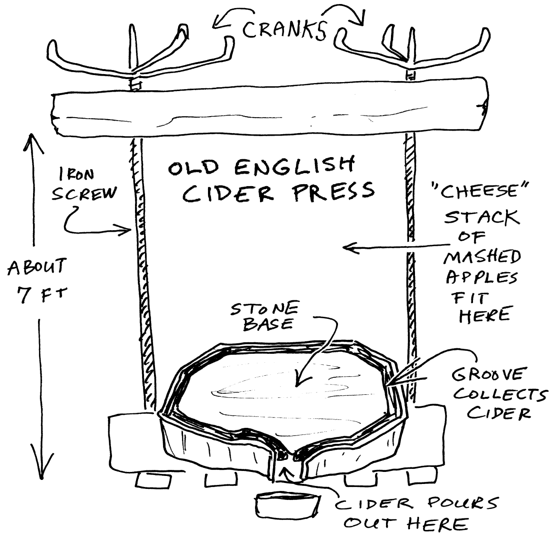
162C Northern Spy on M111, $29.25

Opalescent Fall. Dayton Star Nurseries, Xenia, OH, 1899. Highly flavored dessert apple. Biting into the very large brilliant deep red fruit will bathe your tongue with flavor. Crisp, sweet, tart, juicy—but most of all supremely flavorful. I prefer it as a dessert fruit although it's also considered a good cooking apple. Likely at its best from Massachusetts north. Will keep till mid-late winter. The ancient broken-down tree by the Palermo ball field still pumps out a decent crop most years. Now we have one on our farm. Vigorous medium-sized productive tree blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown**.

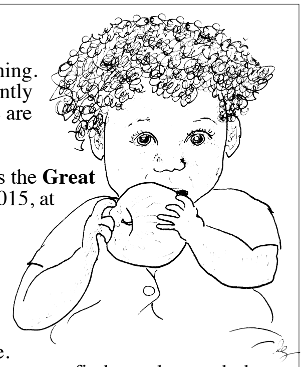
163A Opalescent, $29.25

Perthyre Fall. Perthyre Farm, Monmouthshire, Wales, before 1900. Midseason mild bittersweet cider apple. Sweet, woolly and slightly astringent. (SG 1.047, acidity 3.3g/L, tannin 1.8g/L) Sometimes fermented as a single varietal but most useful in blending. Doubles as a cooking apple. Medium-large oblong-conic fruit is light yellow-green, slightly waxy, sometimes with a pink blush. Originated in southeast Wales, surrounded on three sides by English cider country. The Welsh *seidr* tradition is long and rich—a revival is well underway. If you missed the 2015 Welsh Perry and Cider Festival at Caldicot Castle, you can catch next year's in late May. Blooms midseason. Z4-8. **ME Grown**.

164A Perthyre, $29.25



Where can I taste that apple?



While we pride ourselves on our variety descriptions, there's nothing like the real thing. No words can compare to the taste. Frequently I'm asked, "Where can I taste a ….?" Here are a few suggestions.

The best place to taste apples in Maine is the **Great Maine Apple Day**, Sunday, October 18, 2015, at MOFGA in Unity.

Maine:

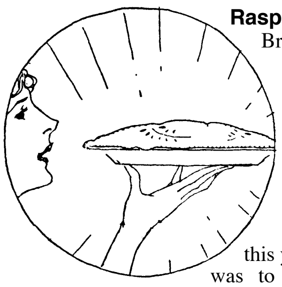
Visit the orchards near you. Contact the Maine Dept of Agriculture at (207) 287-3491 or online at getrealmaine.com for a complete list of the orchards in Maine. Many have unusual varieties. Even one or two rare finds can be worth the trip. Below are some orchards with good collections. There are others, too. Don't be frustrated if you call and reach no one. Just go. By September most of them are open 6 or 7 days a week.

- Ricker Hill Orchards, Turner, Androscoggin County (207) 225-5552, rickerhill.com. Organic apples and more, mostly modern varieties.
- Sweetser's Apple Barrel and Orchards, Cumberland Center, Cumberland County (207) 829-3074, maineapple.com. A great collection of 39 old and new varieties. Don't miss their Rolfe apples.
- Bailey's Orchard, Whitefield, Lincoln County (207) 549-7680. One of the largest collections of old varieties in the state. Pears, plums and crabapples, too.
- Lakeside Orchards, Manchester, Kennebec County (207) 622-2479, lakesideorchards.com. Organic apples and a good collection of mostly new varieties.
- Maine-ly Apples, Dixmont, Penobscot County (207) 234-2043, mainelyapples.com. An excellent collection of old, new and rare varieties.
- Rollins Orchard, Garland, Penobscot County (207) 924-3504, rollinsorchards.com. A very good collection of over 20 unusual old varieties. Plums and pears, too.
- The Apple Farm, Fairfield, Somerset County (207) 453-7656. A great collection of unusual old and new varieties.
- Cayford Orchards, Skowhegan, Somerset County (207) 474-5200, cayfordorchards.com. Fifty-seven new and heirloom varieties of tree fruit on a sixth-generation family farm.
- Sewall Orchard, Lincolnville, Waldo County (207) 763-3956, sewallorchard.com. Organic apples including some of the first disease-resistant releases.
- Doles Orchard, Limington, York County (207) 793-4409, dolesorchard.com. Mix of old and new. They have two un-named varieties crossed by the late Maine plant breeder Russell Bailey. Both are extremely rare, if not unique.

Other New England States:

There are many great orchards all over "Fedco Nation." If you know of any we should list, please let us know. An online search should direct you to an orchard nearby.

- Nashoba Valley Winery, Bolton, MA (978) 779-5521, nashobawinery.com. A very large collection of old and new varieties.
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA (508) 869-6111, towerhillbg.org. The best collection of historic varieties in southern New England. A great place to study the fruit. Usually for sale at a special event on Columbus Day weekend. Call ahead.
- Hutchins Farm, Concord, MA (978) 369-5041, hutchinsfarm.com. Nice collection of old and mostly newer varieties.
- Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA (508) 347-3362, osv.org. Rare heirloom apple tree collection.
- Bear Swamp Orchards, Ashfield, MA (413) 625-2849, bearswamporchard.com. Organic U-pick apples and hard cider.
- Gould Hill Orchard, Contoocook, NH (603) 746-3811, gouldhillfarm.com. Large collection of new and old varieties.
- Poverty Lane Orchards, Lebanon, NH (603) 448-1511, povertylaneorchards.com. One of the best collections of unusual dessert apples in New England. One of the largest collections of cider apples in the U.S. They have most of the cider varieties we sell.
- Alyson's Orchard, Walpole, NH (603) 756-9800, alysonsorchard.com. Large collection of new and old varieties.
- Connecticut Valley Orchards, Westminster, VT (802) 722-3340. Large selection of new and old varieties.
- Lynoaken Farms, Lyndonville, NY (585) 765-2046, lynoakenfarms.com. 350 varieties new and old.

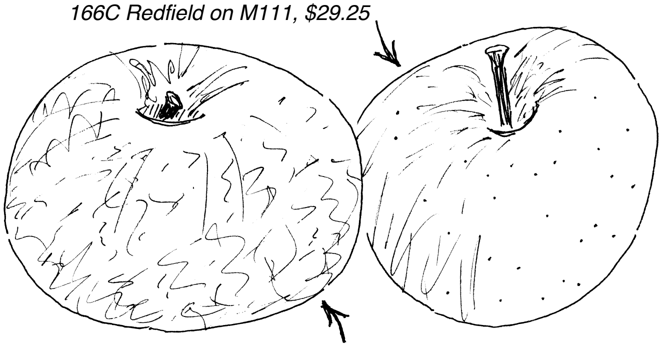


Raspberry Spy Fall-Winter. Northern Spy cross. Bred by Russell Bailey but never introduced. U Maine, c. 1940. Beautiful very large fruit, entirely red-blushed with a russet stem splash. Looks like a very red Northern Spy, though not as hard and crisp. Great "Spy" flavor has a hint of raspberry. Excellent sauce and pies. We picked a half bushel or so in mid-October, and the last six were ready to be used up on January 30. The second of two Bailey apples we are offering this year. (See Golden Spy #**132C**.) Bailey's plan was to introduce hardy winter apples after the terrible winter of 1933-34. This one also comes to us through the generosity of Earl Bunting at Dole's Orchard in Limington. Z4-8. **ME Grown**.

165C Raspberry Spy on M111, $29.25

Redfield Fall. Wolf River x Niedzwetzkyana. NY Stn, 1938. One of the best and largest of the red-fleshed apples. Although usually considered way too tart for eating out of hand, the medium-large fruit with opaque solid rusty-red skin is absolutely great in pies. It makes wonderful jelly and turns sauce and cider red. Gained fame in the hard-cider world thanks to the wonderful single-variety Redfield cider and Redfield blends made by the late Terry Maloney of West County Cider. Very sharp and bitter in cidermakers' lingo. Flesh is two-toned: deep pink fading to white around the core. The flowers are also two-toned, deep pink, tipped with small white lightning bolts. And the bronze-red foliage adds further interest all season. Sometimes listed as a crabapple, but don't be fooled: the apples are the size of Macs. One of the very first to bloom each year. Z3-6. **ME Grown**.

166C Redfield on M111, $29.25



Reine des Pommes Fall. Probably originated in northern Brittany, before 1900. Still known in Mayenne and surrounding areas. Also called **Doux Geslin**. Full bittersweet cider apple, best for blending. The fruit is sweet, woolly and astringent (acidity 2.4G/L, tannin 4.7G/L) Medium-sized oblate-roundish-conic fruit, mostly russeted over a beautiful blend of reds, oranges and yellow. Years ago Terry Maloney of West County Cider in Colrain, MA, wrote to me, "I think the Reine des Pommes has the most powerful and unique taste in a cider of any of the apples we grow. It's a true spitter though. It does okay around here, with a tendency towards biennial bearing and an upward growth habit." Z4-7. **ME Grown**.

168A Reine des Pommes, $29.25

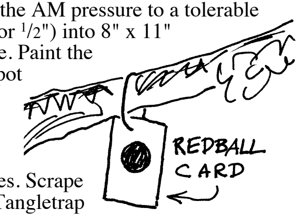
Roxbury Russet Winter. Roxbury, MA, early 1600s. Said to be the first named American apple variety. One of the best late-winter dessert apples—it would be hard to live without them in our root cellar. Rich, spicy and juicy. Exceptional sauce. The aromatic juice is recommended by some for cider, fresh or fermented. Hard medium-large patchy green and russeted fruit. Not uniform in size, shape or color. Medium-to-large vigorous spreading tree. In May I took 30 trees to the Roxbury Historical Society. We had a delightful time planting with neighbors in a renovated abandoned lot by the Hawthorne Youth and Community Center. Bringing the Russet back to Roxbury! Keeps till late spring. Scab resistant. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. Both **ME Grown**.

171A Roxbury Russet, $29.25

171C Roxbury Russet on M111, $29.25

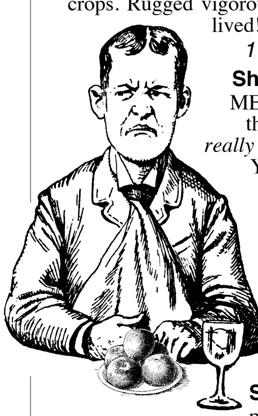
Apple Maggot and plywood

Maine grower Don Johnson has been making nifty apple maggot traps for the past few years. We've gotten into doing so ourselves. In small orchards, the traps alone may be enough to reduce the AM pressure to a tolerable level. Here's how: Cut up plywood (3/8" or 1/2") into 8" x 11" rectangles. Drill a hole along the top edge. Paint the plywood bright yellow with a 2–3" red spot (the apple) in the center. Coat with Tangletrap and hang three in each tree in mid-June, positioning the traps at about chest height. Trim away any foliage that might stick to the trap. Check for AM flies. Scrape the traps off now and then and add new Tangletrap when they get too gooky. Remove traps around Labor Day.



Sand Hill Fall. Unknown parentage. Probably originated on Sand Hill, Somerville, Lincoln County, ME, before 1820. Round yellow-green all-purpose fruit resembles Tolman Sweet in shape though not in flavor. With exceptionally high SG (1.078) and slight bitterness, it would be an excellent addition to your fermented cider. The Sand Hill tree has been a major discovery in our endless quest for old apple trees. The massive hollow open-vase tree has five huge spreading limbs. One of the most ancient in the midcoast area, probably approaching 200 years old, it's still bearing full crops. Rugged vigorous young trees grow beautifully in the orchard. Long lived! Blooms early. Z4-7. **ME Grown**.

172A Sand Hill, $29.25



Shavel Sharp Fall. Possibly a wild seedling, Yarmouth, ME, c. 1960. In our ongoing search for bitter cider apples, this one is the current favorite. We'd categorize this as a *really* bitter sharp. Highly astringent and very difficult to eat. You should have seen his expression when Steve Wood took a bite at the 2014 Cider Days. It still makes me giggle. Very juicy small red-striped fruit. (SG 1.055) Introduced to us by cidermaker Steve Barr who declared it the most bitter apple he'd ever tasted. So far, we agree. We named it, a mash-up of the current owners' name and the farm's traditional name. Scion-wood made available through the generosity of the Shavel family at the old Sharp Farm. Z4-8. **ME Grown**.

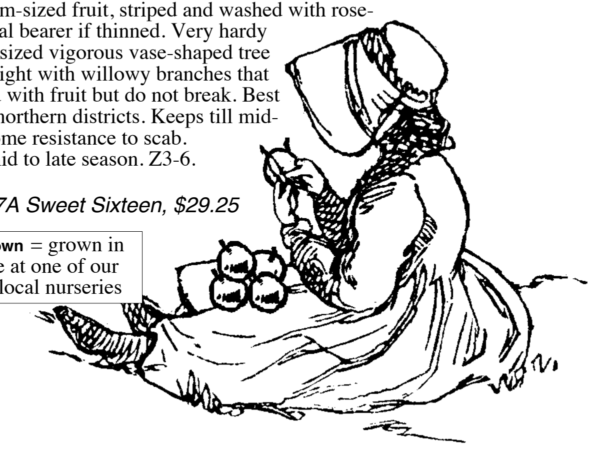
173A Shavel Sharp, $29.25

Somerset of Maine Late Summer-Fall. Unknown parentage. Mercer, Somerset County, ME, before 1850. Also known as **Somerset**. Large oblate all-purpose fruit mostly covered with stripes and a wash of beautiful soft rusty red. Tender juicy subacid flesh makes a really good single-variety fall pie. In the 1907 *Maine Agricultural Experiment Station Report*, WM Munson wrote, "It is an excellent apple and, when known, is highly prized as an early market variety." The fruit keeps into November. Vigorous spreading tree bears annually in our orchard. Still a local favorite here and there around the state. One of Mercer's great contributions to the pomological world. (Another, of course, was Francis Fenton!) Blooms mid-late season. Z4-5. **ME Grown**.

174A Somerset of Maine, $29.25

Sweet Sixteen Fall. MN 1630 (MN447 x Northern Spy) U Minn, 1979. The first bite into a Sweet Sixteen is always a surprise. Fine-textured crisp flesh contains an astounding unusually complex combination of sweet, nutty and spicy flavors with slight anise essence, sometimes described as cherry, vanilla or even bourbon. I always love Sweet Sixteen season. Truly excellent fresh eating, although it is too sweet for some palates. Round-conic bronze-red medium-sized fruit, striped and washed with rose-red. Annual bearer if thinned. Very hardy moderate-sized vigorous vase-shaped tree grows upright with willowy branches that get loaded with fruit but do not break. Best grown in northern districts. Keeps till mid-winter. Some resistance to scab. Blooms mid to late season. Z3-6. **ME Grown.**

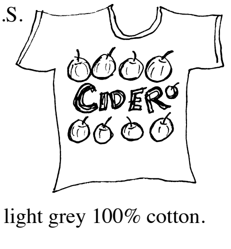
177A Sweet Sixteen, $29.25



ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Fedco Cider T-shirts: "It's Always OK to Be Bitter"

Celebrate your favorite fall drink with our popular cider T-shirt, featuring John Bunker's full-color paintings of ten of the most famous English, French and American cider apples. Printed at Maine's own Liberty Graphics.

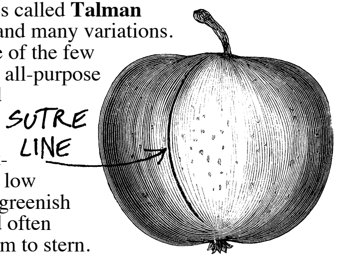


Men's Shirts 100% organic cotton grown in the U.S. Natural color.

L617A Men's T-shirt, small, $18.00
L617B Men's T-shirt, medium, $18.00
L617C Men's T-shirt, large, $18.00
L617D Men's T-shirt, extra-large, $18.00
L617E Men's T-shirt, 2x-large, $20.00
L617F Men's T-shirt, 3x-large, $20.00

Women's Shirts More fitted style made from soft light grey 100% cotton.

L618A Women's T-shirt, small, $18.00
L618B Women's T-shirt, medium, $18.00
L618C Women's T-shirt, large, $18.00
L618D Women's T-shirt, extra-large, $18.00



Tolman Sweet Fall-Early Winter. Sweet Greening x Old Russet. Dorchester, MA, before 1700. Sometimes called **Talman Sweet**, **Taulman Sweet**, **Tomey Sweet** and many variations. One of the first American apples and one of the few to remain popular for centuries. Truly an all-purpose fruit, used for cider, cooking, dessert and even animal fodder. Once popular for pickling, boiling and baking. Especially prized in Maine for apple cake. Unforgettably peculiar sweet strange flavor. Very low acidity. Moderately juicy medium-sized greenish fruit, sometimes with a bit of a blush and often marked by a suture line running from stem to stern. Long-lived heavy-bearing vigorous tree. Still often found throughout central and southern Maine. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

178A Tolman Sweet, $29.25

Twenty Ounce Fall. George Howland intro, Cayuga County, NY, before 1845. Very large (20 ounce!) distinctive red and yellow striped slightly greasy-skinned cooking apple with firm white flesh. Once popular in nearly all of New York and New England. Our region has many great early and late-season cooking apples, but midseason can be slim pickins. Twenty Ounce fills that spot quite handily as a really good fall pie apple. Recommended for sauce and other cooking adventures. Old trees can still be found in Maine. Last fall we received a sighting and zipped off to see a great old tree only half an hour away. Blooms early-midseason. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

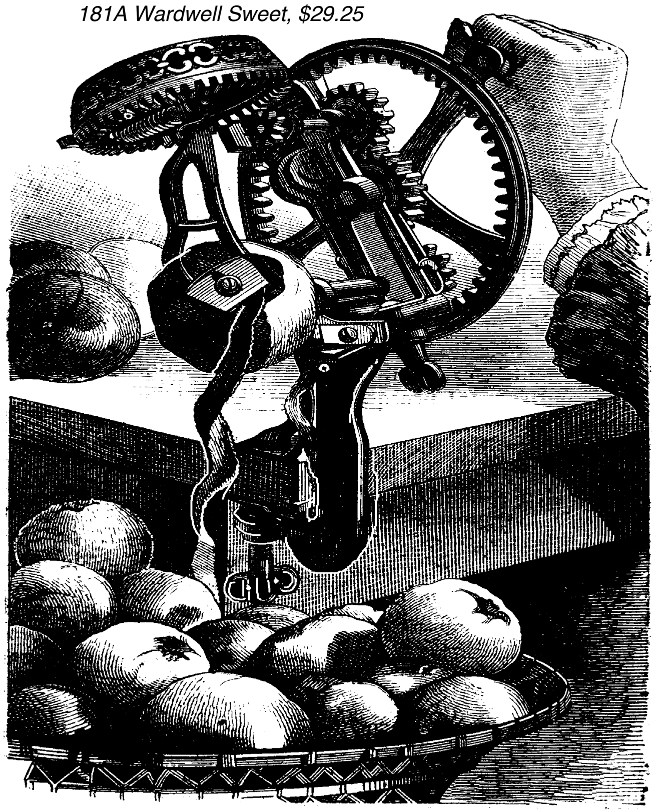
179A Twenty Ounce, $29.25

Wagener Winter. Unknown parentage. Penn Yann, NY, 1791. Midwinter all-purpose storage variety widely grown in Maine during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Bright medium-sized blocky angular ribbed roundish yellow apples mostly covered with a red blush of dots and stripes. Fine-grained crisp tender very juicy subacid aromatic sprightly flavorful fruit. This naturally small tree was sometimes planted as a filler between large standard trees. The Wageners would fruit young and eventually be removed when the big Baldwins kicked in. Precocious annually bearing tree produces very heavily. The fruit lines up along the branches so thickly you've got to look hard to see any wood. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

180A Wagener, $29.25

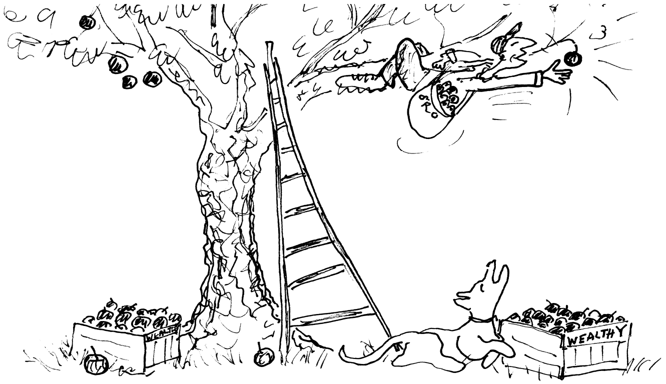
Wardwell Sweet Fall. Probably Orland, ME, 19th c. Offered in our 2003 catalog as **Pumpkin Sweet of Orland Maine**. Old Downeast Maine sweet apple with very low acidity. Introduced to me years ago by Bob Dow of Orland. He knew it as Pumpkin Sweet and described the fruit better than I can: "It has a real nice, mellow, sweetish, flavor. Not a harsh apple. Real fruity—not acidy. Creamyish texture. Tasty right off the tree. You don't have to bust your gums to get into it." Also recommended for cider, apple molasses and cooking. Medium-large angular roundish-conic fruit, mostly rusty red and prominently speckled. Recently we've determined its true identity as Wardwell Sweet. Keeps until November. Blooms midseason. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

181A Wardwell Sweet, $29.25



Wealthy Fall. Cherry crab seedling. Excelsior, MN, 1860. A Maine native of sorts, the seed having come from Bangor. Superb all-purpose fall apple, one of the most famous of all hardy varieties. With its perfect texture and complex flavors, Wealthy is considered to be one of *the* best apples. I agree. Round-oblate medium-sized fruit is pale greenish-yellow streaked with carmine. About as firm as McIntosh. Tender very juicy sweet subacid flesh is white, often stained red. Good eating and even better cooking. Wonderful pies! Good acid source for fermented cider. Ripens over a long period. Productive moderately vigorous long-lived small to medium-sized tree. Blooms early. Z3-4.

182A Wealthy, $29.25



Francis Fenton

On May 11, 2015, two months shy of 100 years old, Francis Wendell Fenton passed away in the same room where he was born on the Sandy River Road in Mercer, ME. Very likely America's oldest orchardist, he was out spraying his trees just a couple of days before he died. Not only was he Maine's senior orchardist, he also had one of Maine's largest apple collections. He was a man with a great deal of knowledge, an infectious love of life, a wonderful sense of humor, tremendous generosity and a passion for apples and people. He attributed his longevity to his daily lunch of hot applesauce and ice cream.

Francis's father planted the orchard in 1906. Of the original trees, about 40 remain. These include a Mac, a Pewaukee, a Ben Davis and about 30 Wealthys. Francis left Maine for California at 22 and when he returned home for good in 1972, the orchard was grown up to white pine and the old farm house had all but collapsed. He renovated the house and the barns. He cut the pine out of the orchard and rescued as many of the old trees as he could. He then filled in the gaps with young whips, many of which he grafted using scionwood from the ancient trees on surrounding farms. By the time he was 99 he had 400 apple trees of more than 40 varieties and an assortment of pears, plums and other fruits.

My first memory of Francis was from one of the early Common Ground Fairs in Windsor. He was standing beside an apple display he had created by stabbing 20 heirloom apples onto nails protruding from a large upright sheet of plywood. He talked to fairgoers all day. Francis loved to talk and to teach. He reminded me of an old-time hawker at a sideshow.

When Francis stopped going to the Fair, I decided it was time to take up the torch and create a Fedco apple display. That was when I tracked him down in Mercer and our friendship began. For the next 20 years I visited his Sandy River Orchard many times. I collected apples to display and scionwood to graft. He and I walked the orchard together over and over and over again. When he was no longer confident of his own grafting ability, I grafted for him.

For a number of years he would appear at the Fedco spring Tree Sale. We would give him a name tag and make him an honorary employee for the day. He would hold court and sell trees. Customers loved him. He never stopped planting trees himself either. One year, when he was about 95, he was standing in line holding a tree he intended to purchase. As I walked by, I heard him say to the stranger next to him, "I always wanted a Red Astrichan."

Although Francis slowed down in recent years, nearly every time we visited he was out in the orchard mowing between the rows or picking fruit or conversing with another customer who stopped by the farmstand to purchase a peck of Wealthys or Wolf Rivers or his famous Dollie's Delicious. If not in the orchard, he'd be puttering around the barns with his chainsaw. There was Francis, late 90s, working on some project.

Francis's favorite apple was Wealthy. He always said it was the best there was. His 109-year-old standard Wealthy trees are still putting out large crops of beautiful fruit. Not only that, the trees themselves never seem to get too big, even on old-fashioned standard seedling rootstock. Wealthy is exceptionally hardy and prolific, truly an all-purpose fruit. It makes a fabulous pie and wonderful hot applesauce, especially with ice cream.

A long-term plan for Sandy River Orchard is being developed by his close relatives. It will remain in the family and continue to operate. Right now a young couple who got to know Francis the last few years is managing the orchard. They planted a new row of young trees this spring. Another generation takes up the grafting knife and the ladder and the picking bucket and continues the journey.

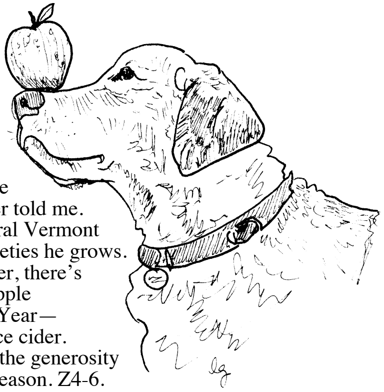
Westfield Seek-No-Further Winter. Westfield, MA, before 1800. Excellent fresh eating. A Hudson River grower of 200 varieties declared it "the best apple in the world." In *The Apples of New York* SA Beech describes it as "firm, medium in grain or a little coarse, crisp tender, breaking juicy, mild subacid, rich, sometimes astringent, peculiarly aromatic, sprightly, very good to best." Also an outstanding drying apple. Medium-sized fruit covered with dull rusty red and russet. Vigorous hardy rugged long-lived tree. Keeps till midwinter. Our scionwood came by the generosity of Mike Clark and his ancient tree in Thorndike, ME. One of Massachusetts' most famous apples. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown**.

183A Westfield Seek-No-Further, $29.25

Wickson Fall. (Esopus Spitzenburg x Newtown Pippin) Albert Etter intro, Humboldt County, CA, 1944. One of the most intensely flavorful apples we list. Small roundish bright red fruit is crisp, juicy, tart, tangy and spicy. Extremely high in both sugar and acid. Sugar level of the juice is around 25%. Highly recommended for dessert. Becoming one of the most sought after American cider apples, both for blending and as a single varietal. In September the tree looks like a mass of cherries. Bred and introduced by the generally unknown Albert Etter, one of America's most innovative and important fruit breeders of the 20th c. Wickson bears young, heavily and annually. Keeps until January. Blooms midseason. Z4-8. **ME Grown**.

184A Wickson, $29.25 *184C Wickson on M111, $29.25*

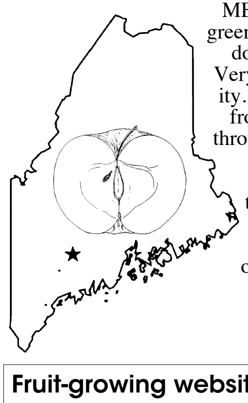
Windfall Golden Fall. Brad Koelher intro, Windfall Orchard, Cornwall, VT, c. 2000. High-quality dessert and ice-cider variety. The yellow fruit, overlaid with russet netting and a rosy pink blush, has a complex flavor that's sweet and lightly acidic with spicy honey overtones. Crisp and quite dense. "The sweetness of this apple puts the Honeycrisp to shame," Brad Koelher told me. He discovered this apple in his central Vermont orchard. His favorite of the 100 varieties he grows. Most likely a wild seedling. However, there's some chance it's the old Vermont apple **Tinmouth**. Keeps until about New Year—Windfall Orchard uses the rest for ice cider. Scionwood made available through the generosity of Windfall Orchards. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown**.



186A Windfall Golden, $29.25

Winthrop Greening Late Summer-Fall. Ichabod Howe Farm, Winthrop, ME, before 1800. Large beautiful oblate all-purpose green fruit sporting a red-orange wash, small greenish dots and splashes of russet. Tender rich juicy flesh. Very interesting sweet flavor with medium-low acidity. One of the few Maine apples to receive attention from outside the state over the years. Quite popular throughout central Maine as late as 1920; now all but unknown. Ichabod Howe (1731–1810) laid out many of Winthrop's roads, organized construction of its first church, was an accomplished trapper and hunter, served seven terms as selectman and was, appropriately enough, Winthrop's first orchardist. Blooms late. Z4-6. **ME Grown**.

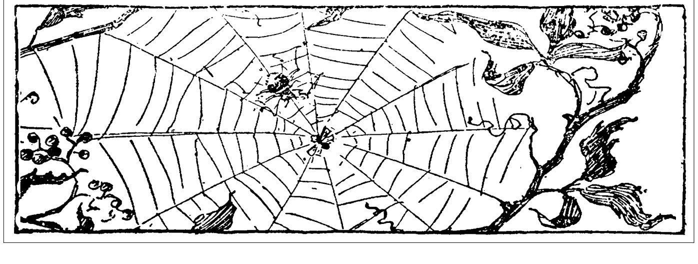
188A Winthrop Greening, $29.25

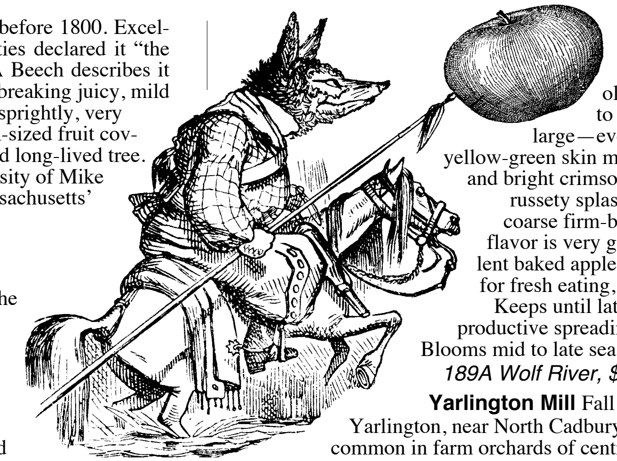


Fruit-growing websites

Whether you use organic or conventional orchard practices, several websites can provide you with a great deal of information about insect and disease pressure, spray timing, frost predictions and a whole lot more. Here are a few of the best:

UMaine Cooperative Extension: umaine.edu/ipm/programs/apple/
Cornell University: fruit.cornell.edu/
University of Vermont: uvm.edu/~fruit/
Holistic Orchard Network: groworganicapples.com/





Wolf River Fall. Alexander seedling. Near Wolf River, WI, 1875. Perhaps the most famous old-time apple in Maine, likely due to its catchy name and its extremely large—even huge—round-oblate fruit. Pale yellow-green skin mostly covered with pink, deep red and bright crimson with a vivid yellowish-greenish russety splash around the stem. Creamy-white coarse firm-but-tender flesh. Aromatic subacid flavor is very good for cooking. Makes an excellent baked apple and a decent pie. Not much good for fresh eating, but particularly tasty when dried. Keeps until late fall. Large moderately vigorous productive spreading tree. Excellent scab resistance. Blooms mid to late season Z3-5.

189A Wolf River, $29.25

Yarlington Mill Fall. Medium-bittersweet cider apple. Yarlington, near North Cadbury, Somerset, England, 1898. Once common in farm orchards of central Somerset. Steve Wood's other favorite bittersweet. Highly recommended for commercial plantings. (SG 1.052, acidity 2.2g/L, tannin 3.2g/L) Medium-sized yellow conical fruit with a pinkish blush and overspreading darker red stripes. Considered an all-round excellent cider variety: reliable, productive and adaptable to varying conditions. Rich brown low-acid mild lovely aromatic fruity cider, not aggressively tannic. Above-average sugar content. Slow to medium fermentation. You may need to head back the leader in early years to encourage strong laterals. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown**.

190A Yarlington Mill, $29.25

190C Yarlington Mill on M111, $29.25

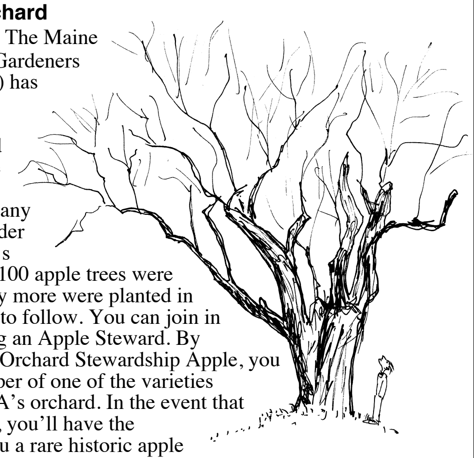
Yellow Bellflower Winter. Burlington, NJ, 18th c. Also known as **Belle-Fleur** or **Yellow Belle-Fleur.** Among the oldest and most famous of American apple varieties, possibly originating as early as the 17th c. Magnificent ancient specimens can still be found in old Maine orchards. Very large beautiful conic yellow all-purpose fruit, sometimes with a blush. AJ Downing described the flesh 150 years ago as "tender, juicy, crisp, sprightly sub-acid…" One of the best of all the cooking apples. Received its name from its beautiful blossoms. Ripens in late fall and keeps until March in the root cellar. Many thanks to Richard Kelly and Rosey Guest for providing us with scionwood from their old trees. Z4-7. **ME Grown**.

191A Yellow Bellflower, $29.25

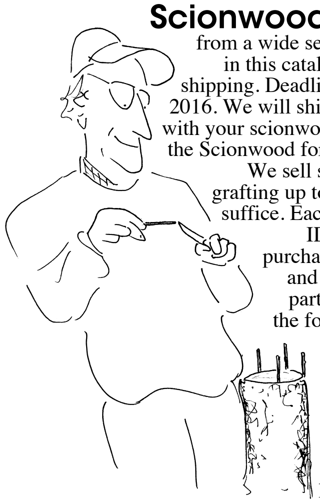
Zestar Late Summer. (State Fair x MN 1691) U Minn, 1999. Extremely hardy high-quality mid-late summer dessert apple. Medium-sized blocky round fruit covered with red stripes and blush. Juicy and crisp with a well-balanced acid/sweet flavor. Michael Phillips, New Hampshire orchardist and author of *The Apple Grower*, said to me, "When you tree-ripen Zestar, it's fabulous." Northern Maine orchardist Steve Miller added, "That's an impressive apple. From the standpoint of appearance and quality, they're first rate." Keeps in cold storage up to seven weeks. Tree has moderately vigorous upright form; excellent horizontal branching habit makes it easy to train and prune. Precocious and annual-bearing. Blooms early season. Z3-5. **ME Grown**.

192A Zestar, $29.25

Maine Heritage Orchard Stewardship Apple The Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) has established the Maine Heritage Orchard. Located in a renovated gravel pit in Unity, the terraced polyculture orchard will be unlike any orchard anywhere. Under the direction of Fedco's John Bunker, the first 100 apple trees were planted in 2014. Eighty more were planted in 2015 with many more to follow. You can join in this effort by becoming an Apple Steward. By purchasing a Heritage Orchard Stewardship Apple, you become the proud keeper of one of the varieties represented in MOFGA's orchard. In the event that the orchard's tree dies, you'll have the backup. We'll send you a rare historic apple tree and a form to fill out. After planting your tree, you return the form with the tree's location to MOFGA. MOFGA will contact you from time to time. $30 from the sale of each tree goes to support the Maine Heritage Orchard (MeHO) project. For more information go to mofga.org. All trees best grown from Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



218A Stewardship Apple, $50.00



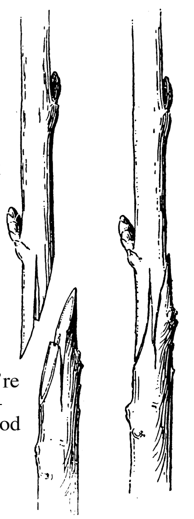
Scionwood

We offer scionwood (twigs for grafting) from a wide selection of fruit trees including many listed in this catalog. Price is $5.00 per stick (about 8") plus shipping. Deadline for ordering scionwood is February 19, 2016. We will ship around March 17. Rootstock can be sent with your scionwood order in late March if you order it from the Scionwood form (pp. 37-38) or select that option online.

We sell scions (scionwood) in two ways. For those grafting up to 3 or 4 trees of a variety, one 8" stick will suffice. Each single 8" stick comes with a small paper ID label. This is how most of our customers purchase scionwood. For commercial orchardists and others grafting large numbers of trees of a particular variety, we also offer scionwood by the foot ($4.50 per foot, minimum order of 10'). In our own nursery work, we are usually able to graft about 6 or 8 trees from one foot of scionwood.

We collect the scionwood in winter and store it at about 40° until shipment in March. You can graft right away or store it for later use. Stored properly, it will keep quite well for several weeks. It needs to be kept in the fridge or in a cold dark basement, root cellar or shed. Storing scionwood at freezing temps can be okay (we have friends who stick theirs in a snow bank), but the *very* cold temperatures in a freezer will kill it. It will also die if it dries out or is stored without special protection from ripening veggies or fruits. We recommend *triple-bagging* your scionwood in plastic bags, no matter where you store it. There is no need to dampen the scionwood or to insert wet paper towels before bagging it.

Scions are not trees!



Scions are twigs, not trees. They have no roots and will not grow if you plant them. They are cuttings from branch tips collected in the winter to be grafted in the spring.

Is grafting easy to do? Yes and no. It is an acquired skill. Experienced grafters often have 100% "take" (success rate) with their grafting. Beginners often have less than 50% take—or even zero. While you can learn to graft from a book or video, we highly recommend the old-fashioned way of learning: find a real person to teach you. MOFGA (Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association) has grafting classes every spring. Other organizations around the country do as well.

There are two general ways to graft. You can **bench graft** by grafting scionwood onto rootstock. Generally we do this indoors in late March or early April. A few weeks later we plant the little trees in our garden or nursery to grow for a couple of years before setting them in the orchard when they're 3–4' tall. You can grow your own rootstock from seed or purchase it. We sell rootstock and can send it with your scionwood order if you select that option. You can also **topwork** scionwood onto existing trees in your yard or orchard. We do our topworking after the trees have begun to show some green growth, usually about May 10 in central Maine.

Can you collect your own scionwood? Of course! Grafting can open up a whole new world for you. You can purchase scionwood from Fedco and several other suppliers around the country. You can trade scionwood like you would baseball cards or recipes. And, best of all, you can collect your own scionwood from your favorite trees. We're always on the lookout for interesting varieties to graft. Before long, you may even become completely obsessed like many of us at Fedco!

Hardy Rootstocks

We consider these to be some of the best rootstocks for home or commercial use. Even without grafting, any of these produces fruit suitable for wildlife. For rootstocks not listed, or for larger calipers or larger quantities, please write for information. We also offer grafting supplies in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Seed catalog or online at **fedcoseeds.com**.

Please note! We do our best to provide $^1/_4$" caliper stock. Because of factors beyond our control (such as weather!) stock may be $^3/_{16}$–$^3/_8$".

Because of the way they are propagated, clonal rootstocks (B118, M111, G11, B9 apples and OHxF97 pear) rarely come with more than a few roots. You may have better luck planting clonal rootstocks for a year in your garden or nursery before grafting them.

You may order rootstock for shipment around March 17 by using the scionwood order form, available in this catalog, page 37. Rootstock ordered on the regular order form in this catalog, page 35, will be shipped with the rest of the Tree order in April. Either option is available online.

Please join us Sunday, March 20, 2016, at the Maine Tree Crop Alliance annual Scionwood Exchange and grafting workshop in the exhibition hall of MOFGA's Common Ground Education Center in Unity. MOFGA also offers a full range of organic orcharding classes; see mofga.org for details.

***Malus* 'Antonovka'** (Apple) Hardy Russian seedling rootstock for full-sized "standard" apple trees. The hardiest rootstock we offer. Space trees 20–30' apart. Z3-5.

232A Malus Antonovka, bundle of 10, $29.00

***Malus* 'Budagovsky 118'** (Apple) [Moscow Pear x (M8 and M9 pollen)] Michurinsk College of Ag, Michurin, Russia. Also called **Bud 118** or **B118**. Semi-dwarf rootstock, similar in size to M111 (about 85–90% of standard). Sometimes referred to as a "semi-standard" or even a standard. Space trees 20–25' apart. More productive than Antonovka, similiar to M111 in that respect. Fruits sooner than trees on Antonovka. Very winter hardy and soil adaptable. Generally not used in commercial orchards due to its large size. Resistant to collar rot. Unknown susceptibility to fireblight. Z3.

233A M. Budagovsky 118, bundle of 10, $29.00

***Malus* 'M111'** (Apple) [Northern Spy x Merton 793 (Northern Spy x East Malling11)] Collaborative intro of East Malling Research Stn and the John Innes Institute, Merton, England, about 1950. Technically named MM111, the MM refers to Malling and Merton. Very popular semi-dwarf rootstock produces a tree about 65–80% of standard. Space trees 15–20' apart. No staking necessary. Fruits at a slightly younger age than standards. Well anchored and adaptable to a wide range of soils. Woolly-aphid resistant. Not nearly as long-lived as standards. Hardy to Z4, maybe Z3.

234A M111, bundle of 10, $29.00

***Malus* 'Geneva 11'** (Apple) Also called **G11**. Cornell University intro, NY. Dwarf rootstock produces a tree about a third the size of standard, about halfway between M9 and M26 (a bit larger than Bud 9). Space trees 8–10' apart. Suckers only slightly. Moderately susceptible to woolly aphid. Excellent fireblight resistance. Requires staking, weeding and watering in most locations. Z4/5.

235A Malus Geneva 11 Dwarf, bundle of 10, $33.00

***Malus* 'Budagovsky 9'** (Apple) [M8 x Red Standard (Krasnij Standart)] Also called **Red-leafed Paradise** or **Bud 9**. Michurinsk College of Ag, Michurin, Russia, 1946. Dwarfing rootstock, produces a tree about a quarter the size of a standard tree. Highly productive and precocious with high levels of soluble solids and large fruit size. Very hardy though not as hardy as Antonovka. In most locations, requires weeding, mulching, staking and irrigation. Space trees 5–10' apart. Some resistance to fireblight. Z4.

236A M. Budagovsky 9, bundle of 10, $29.00

Prunus americana (Plum) Seedling rootstock for American, Japanese or hybrid plums. Also recommended for grafting peaches. Seedling plum produces very decent 1" fruit without grafting. The best pollinator for hybrid plums. (See explanation in plum section on page 25.) Z3.

237A Prunus americana, bundle of 10, $29.00

***Prunus avium* 'Mazzard'** (Cherry) The rootstock we use for grafting sweet and pie cherries. Shallow spreading root system. Longer lived than Maheleb though not as hardy. Does not do well in heavy poorly drained soils. Z4/5.

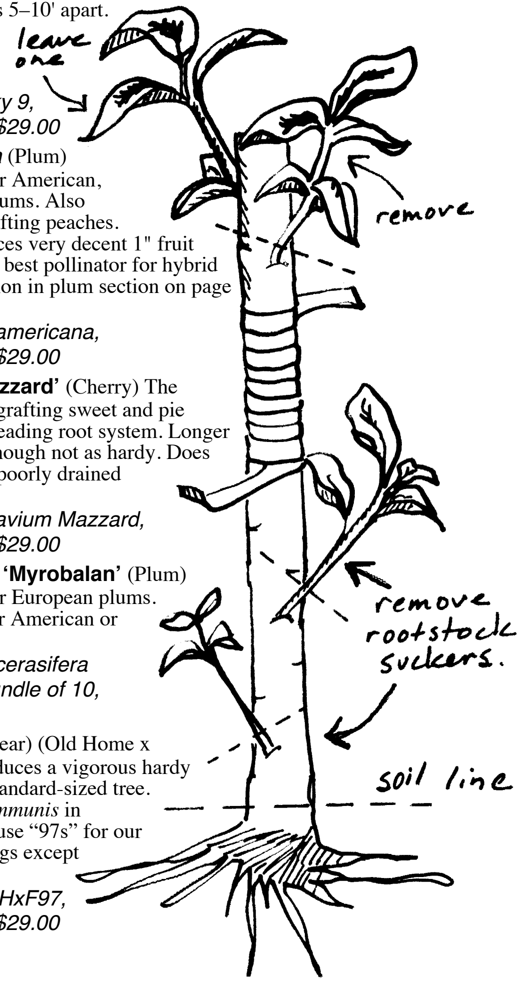
238A Prunus avium Mazzard, bundle of 10, $29.00

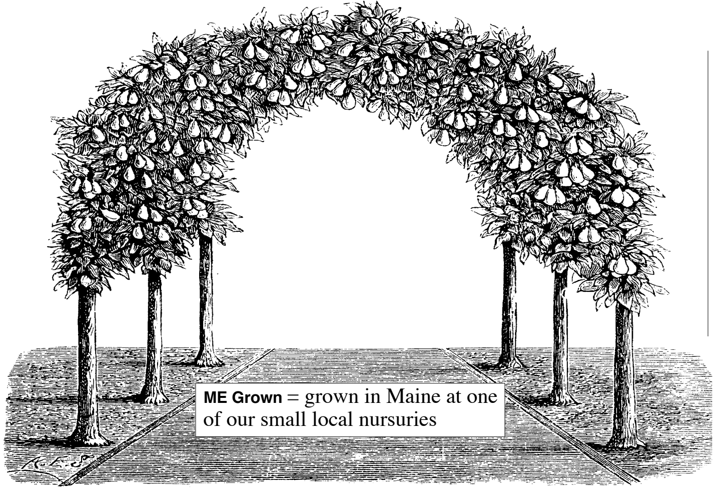
***Prunus cerasifera* 'Myrobalan'** (Plum) Seedling rootstock for European plums. Not recommended for American or hybrid plums. Z3.

239A Prunus cerasifera Myrobalan, bundle of 10, $29.00

***Pyrus* 'OHxF97'** (Pear) (Old Home x Farmingdale 97) Produces a vigorous hardy well-rooted almost-standard-sized tree. Superior to *Pyrus communis* in numerous ways. We use "97s" for our Fedco catalog offerings except where noted. Z3/4.

240A Pyrus OHxF97, bundle of 10, $29.00

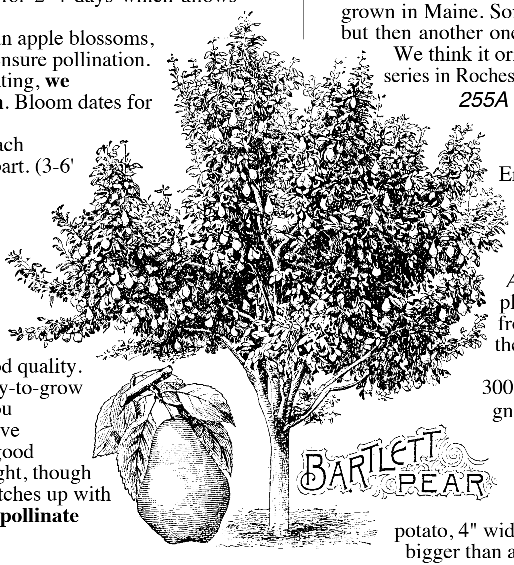



ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Pears *Pyrus communis* are native to temperate Europe and Asia and can grow up to 100' tall in the wild. Many pear varieties are hardy in New England but tend to take longer to come into bearing than apples. Farther south, pears tend to bear annually. However, in Maine, where they are approaching their northern limit, some varieties tend to bear biennially. Pick fruit when green and ripen it on the shelf. Or, for optimal eating, try Ed Fackler's method: "…when fruits exhibit slight color changes, begin to test pressure (using your thumb) near the stem. When there is a slight 'give,' pick all the fruit, store at or near 35° for 7 or more days. Then remove them as needed, allow them to sit at room temps for 2–4 days which allows them to ripen to peak flavor."

Pear blossoms are less attractive to bees than apple blossoms, so pears should be planted closer together to ensure pollination. Although some pears appear to be self-pollinating, **we recommend a second variety for pollination**. Bloom dates for all varieties are similar.

Pears are on OHxF97 rootstock and will reach approximately 25' at maturity; plant 15–20' apart. (3-6' trees)



Bartlett Late Summer. Seedling found in Aldermaston, England. Introduced to the U.S. in the late 1700s. Also known as **Williams' Bon Chrétien**. Most widely planted and well known of all pears, accounting for 75% of the U.S. commercial crop. Adaptable to many climates and soils. Large greenish-yellow classic oblong obtuse-pyriform fruit; very good quality. Full reliable annual crops. Large vigorous easy-to-grow long-lived tree bears young. I used to think you couldn't grow Bartlett in central Maine, but I've changed my mind. Now I recommend it as a good choice south of Bangor. Susceptible to fireblight, though that won't be up here until global warming catches up with us. Good pollinator for Asian Pears. **Will not pollinate Seckel.** Z4.

248A Bartlett, $29.25

Beurre Clairgeau Mid-Late Fall. Pierre Clairgeau intro, Nantes, France, about 1830. Large Bartlett-shaped fruit with a beautiful red blush. At its best, the fruit is richly flavored, melting, buttery, juicy, sweet and aromatic. The trees are among the best—vigorous, healthy, very productive, bearing young and annually. Brought to the U.S. around 1854, Clairgeau found its niche for canning and other cooking. Quickly spread throughout New York and New England up into Maine, becoming a mainstay of American pear growing. Now mostly forgotten, but Fedco is pleased to be bringing it back. Z4. **ME Grown**.

249A Beurre Clairgau, $29.25

Bosc Fall. Seedling in Lourain, Belgium, 1807. Also called **Beurre Bosc**. Oblong acute-pyriform, or large and long-necked; dark rich yellow covered with cinnamon-brown russet. Distinctive sweet rich spicy buttery flavor. Melting juicy tender white flesh has smooth texture and a pleasing aroma. Somewhat gritty around the core. Good pollinator. Large vigorous upright spreading tree bears huge crops annually. A longtime favorite throughout central Maine. Z4.

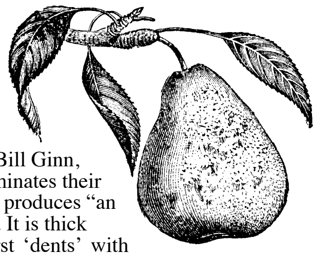
250A Bosc, $29.25

Cabot Vermont Fall. An old dessert pear discovered in Cabot, VT, a few miles west of the New Hampshire border and about as far north as Bangor, ME. Introduced to us many years ago by Armando Bona of Passumpsic, VT. Not to be confused with the old Massachusetts pear Cabot. A superior dessert pear with medium-large oblong obovate-pyriform fruit. Yellowish skin has a slight reddish blush. Yellowish sweet flesh is coarse grained, extremely juicy, with no grit cells. Not only is it a delicious dessert fruit, it is also remarkable for its very rare "double" flowers. Highly ornamental! Annual and self-pollinating. Very hardy. Z4 or possibly even Z3. **ME Grown.**

251A Cabot Vermont, $29.25

Columbia Fall. Originated on the Casser farm, Westchester County, NY, about 1835. Good dessert pear, and excellent for canning or sauce. Large yellowish-green oblong obovate-pyriform fruit has yellowish-white granular sweet juicy flesh. Similar in appearance to Bartlett. Large vigorous spreading productive tree fruits very heavily every other year. Our scionwood comes from an old tree in the front yard of the Palermo Historical Society. Year-round it's a majestic sight, especially in fruit. People from all over stop by and put the fruit to good use. Z4. **ME Grown**.

252A Columbia, $29.25


Beurre d'Amanlis.

D'Amalis Early Fall. Probably from near Rennes, France, before 1800. Also called **Buerre d'Amalis** or **Buerre d'Amanlis**. Fedco sold it as **Pownal** before we had identified it. Very high-quality dessert and cooking pear introduced to us by June Lacombe and Bill Ginn, whose beautiful locally famous tree dominates their back yard. June wrote to us that the tree produces "an abundant crop of large sweet juicy fruit. It is thick skinned and must be eaten when it first 'dents' with your thumb while the skin is still green. At that point, it is tender, fragrant and luscious. We have collected pear recipes for years to use the prolific produce from this ancient tree and fattened our homegrown turkeys on the excess." Z4/5. **ME Grown**.

253A D'Amalis, $29.25

Duchesse de Berry d'Ete Mid-Late Summer. Commune of Saint-Herblain, Dept of Loire-Inferieure, France, 1827. Very high-quality summer dessert fruit. Semi-fine, melting, juicy, sugary and aromatic. Medium-small globular-turbinate (roundish) yellow fruit blushed with red and covered with brown dots. We've been on a mission to track down lost pears historically grown in Maine. Sometimes it feels a bit like looking for passenger pigeons, but then another one shows up. We found this one in a collection out west. We think it originally came to Maine from one of the large 19th c. nurseries in Rochester, NY. Productive vigorous upright grower. Z4. **ME Grown**.

255A Duchesse de Berry d' Ete, $29.25

Endicott Fall. Dessert and perry pear. Orchard Farm, Naumkeag, MA, c. 1630. The incredible 386-year-old Endicott pear tree has the distinction of being probably the oldest living fruit tree in America. Medium-sized roundish fruit (obovate obtuse-pyriform) is greenish yellow, dotted and splashed with russet. Moderately tasty fresh eating, and James Thacher in his 1825 *The American Orchardist* writes, "From the pear is prepared a pleasant liquor, known under the name of perry..." Planted from seed in either 1630 or 1632 by Puritan John Endicott, the first Colonial Governor of Massachusetts. Endicott was an avid gardener who grew hundreds of fruit trees on his 300-acre Orchard Farm in what is now Danvers. The ancient gnarled and twisted tree is all that remains. Z4/5. **ME Grown**.

256A Endicott, $29.25

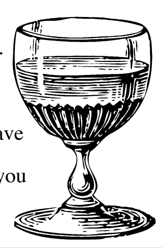
Ginnybrook Fall. Unknown origin, possibly Belchertown, MA. This is the largest pear anyone at Fedco has ever seen. Gigantic and very oddly shaped, like a huge potato, 4" wide and more than 5" long. Even the smaller specimens are bigger than a Bartlett. Dull yellow skin, mostly covered with light tan russet. Crisp, perfumy and very juicy. Best for fresh eating and perry. Introduced to us by Hope Guardenier of Belchertown. She brought very good perry to the 2013 Cider Days. She gave me two pears. Wow! We have yet to identify the variety. For now, Hope calls it Ginnybrook. Ripens in October and keeps about a month. Z4. **ME Grown**.

258A Ginnybrook, $29.25

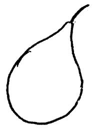
Gorham Early Fall. Bartlett x Josephine de Malines. New York Stn, Geneva, NY, 1923. Dessert pear of excellent quality. Smooth, dense, juicy and sweet. Large yellow fruit, often partly or entirely russeted. Ripens a week or two later than Bartlett, which it resembles in size and shape. Stores well. Introduced to us by Fedco grower John Meader who wrote in the note he included with the fruit, "I had a dozen or so high up in the tree that were better specimens but the wind dropped them while I was unaware, and a flock of turkeys ate the drops—it's always something." Upright vigorous productive (tall!) tree. Quite hardy. Z3/4. **ME Grown**.

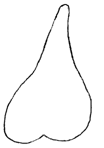
259A Gorham, $29.25

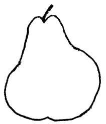
Perry Pears

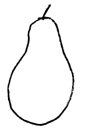


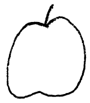
High-quality fermented "cider" can be made from pears, traditionally called "perry" in parts of England. Many cidermakers in the States are now making some version of perry. Although you can use any pears, the true stuff is made from specific varieties. These mostly small bitter perry pears give the drink its distinctive body and flavor. We have been collecting scionwood and grafting perry pear trees to offer here. We will have an excellent crop of trees available in 2017. We are also custom grafting orders for those interested in starting perry orchards. If you would like more information about all that, please be in touch: john@fedcoseeds.com.

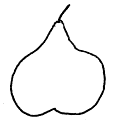

Acute Pyriform

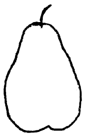

Oblong Acute Pyriform


Oblong Obovate Pyriform


Oblong Obtuse Pyriform


Obovate


Obovate Acute Pyriform


ovate Pyriform

McLaughlin Fall. Probably Oxford County, ME, before 1800. Excellent highest quality dessert pear keeps well into winter. Sweet, rich, perfumed, extremely juicy and melting. Medium-large obtuse-pyriform yellow russeted fruit, sometimes with a reddish blush. Introduced to me by Steve Barr whose family's tree was planted about 120 years ago. "Don't despair this pear comes off the tree like a green rock in October. We shake them down after Columbus Day when the nights are getting cold. We bring them inside and place them in canvas bags, and start searching in a week or two. The taste is sweet with a hint of cinnamon, and the texture delightful, not mealy. A juicy pear you have to eat over a napkin or cut it up and eat out of a bowl… yields heavily year after year. This pear is easy to grow, we do nothing to it at all except pick them in October." Z4. **ME Grown**.

263A McLaughlin, $29.25

Nova Late Summer. Hammond, NY. Discovered and introduced by Bill MacKentley of St Lawrence Nurseries, Potsdam, NY. Large yellow roundish dessert pear with melting juicy flesh. Chris Blanchard's favorite pear. For decades he and Liz Lauer have been trialing a wide assortment of pears a few hours north of here in Penobscot County. He described it to me as "large with smooth creamy texture and a thin skin. Wonderful dessert pear. Also the best canning of our 12–14 varieties." Holds its shape in the jar. Very hardy, though from our trials in northern Aroostook County, not quite as hardy as Patten. Appears to be fireblight and scab free. Z3. **ME Grown**.

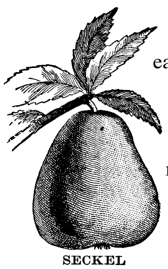
264A Nova, $29.25

Patten Late Summer. Orel 15 x Anjou. CG Patten intro, Iowa St U, 1922. The best-quality large hardy pear available. Very good fresh eating with sweet "high flavor." Fine-grained soft flesh has minimal grit cells. Vaguely reminiscent of Bosc in size and shape. Good canning pear. Tree is extremely adaptable, growing all over the Northeast. Long willowy very flexible branches won't break even under the weight of its heavy crops. Fared incredibly well during the cold "test winter" several years ago when hundreds of northern Maine pear trees died to the roots. Extremely hardy and highly recommended for coldest districts. A good pollinator for other varieties. Scab resistant. Z3. **ME Grown**.

265A Patten, $29.25

Rogue Red Late Fall. [Comice x (Seckel x Farmindale seedling #122)] Southern Oregon Experiment Stn, Medford, OR, 1969. Very sweet high-quality late-ripening dessert pear with buttery cream-colored flesh and very few grit cells. The fruit is large, Seckel-shaped (obovate), mostly red-blushed and partially russeted. Harvest about the time of Bosc. Said to be a very good winter keeper. Sometimes incorrectly referred to as Rouge Red. Vigorous upright annual-bearing moderately productive tree. Shows tolerance to fireblight; resistant to pear scab. Z3/4. **ME Grown**.

266A Rogue Red, $29.25


SECKEL

Seckel Late Summer. Seedling near Philadelphia, PA, early 1800s. Sometimes called **Sugar Pear**. Often considered the best-flavored of all pears; even the skin is delicious. Small obovate fruit is yellowish-brown russeted with slight red blush. Juicy, spicy, distinctive and aromatic. Eat ripe off the tree or pick firm and ripen later. We use Seckels to make our baked pear sauce. It's wonderful. Very productive annual-bearing large tree, easy to grow. *The* most reliably bearing fruit tree we have. Scab and fireblight resistant. **Will not pollinate Bartlett.** Z4. **ME Grown**

267A Seckel, $29.25

Stacyville Late Summer. Unknown origin. Stacyville, ME. Medium-sized obovate obtuse-pyriform pears are light yellow with an orange to greyish-red blush. The sweet fruit has a delicious citrusy aftertaste. Although the fruit is good fresh eating, we prefer to use it as a cooking pear. Precocious and productive. Our tree gives us large crops most years. Long ago, friends told me about the pear and insisted that I make the trip to Stacyville in southern Aroostook County. When I finally saw it myself, I thought that the 50' tall vase-shaped tree was an elm. That tree, held together with cables, was extremely old but still bearing huge crops. Appears to be self-pollinating. Disease resistant, extremely hardy and very vigorous. Does not keep for long; use them up quickly! Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.**

268A Stacyville, $29.25

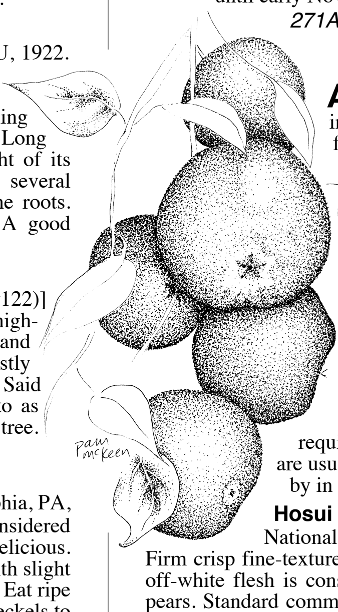
Pears are generally easy to grow in New England. One challenge growers sometimes face is **pear leaf blister mites**. The microscopic mites live in the leaf tissue and overwinter in the buds. You know you've got them if your pear leaves are disfigured by small green-yellow-brown or pink blistery bumps. You'll see them if you have them. Two organic controls are an oil and lime sulfur spray in Oct.–Nov. and a dormant oil spray in the spring just before the buds open.

Vavilov Late Summer. (Rousselet of Stuttgart x Dr. Jules Guyot No. VII) USSR Vavilov Institute, Leningrad, Russia. One of the Curator's Favorites in the National Clonal Germplasm Repository collection in Corvallis, OR. Light yellow pyriform dessert pear with a pink speckled blush. Crunchy fruit ripens on the tree. Disease resistant and cold hardy. One of five selections sent from the Vavilov Institute to Corvallis in 1968. Nikolay Ivanovich Vavilov, one of Russia's most famous scientists, studied the origins of agriculture, established the world's largest seed bank and devoted his life to ending world hunger. The seed collection became famous in World War II when scientists there guarded the 250,000 accessions. They refused to eat the seeds, and a number of them starved. Vavilov was arrested by Stalin and died in prison. Z4. **ME Grown**.

270A Vavilov, $29.25

Washington State Fall. Unknown parentage, uncertain origin. Discovered many years ago on a Washington State University field trip in the mountains of the Northwest. Introduced to me by old-timer Len Alexander of Chelsea, ME. It was Len's favorite for canning. Flavorful, firm but melting with slightly grainy flesh, not as juicy as his other pears. Remains pure white in the jar and doesn't get soft. According to Len, it also makes a pear cider that's "just like drinking syrup." The orangey-colored fruit with its long tapering neck resembles Bosc in form. Pick in October and let the fruit sit until early November when the texture becomes soft. Z4. **ME Grown**.

271A Washington State, $29.25



Asian Pears

Pyrus pyrifolia have been grown in China, where there are thousands of named cultivars, for more than 2000 years. They are long-lived and bear young. Asian pears differ from European pears: they are crisp and very juicy, sweet and mild with a nutty background, and are roundish in shape. **Although partly self-fruitful, pollinators are recommended.** The varieties we offer will pollinate one another. Some European pears, notably Bartlett, will also act as pollinators. Because they set heavily, thin the crop once or even twice during the first two months after bloom to ensure large fruit. Unlike European pears, they should be tree-ripened. When the seeds are black, the pears are ready to pick. They ripen in late summer and keep several weeks with refrigeration. Cultural requirements are similar to European pears. Although there are usually considered a Zone 5 plant, maybe they can squeak by in Zone 4. (3-6' trees)

Hosui Late Summer. [Ri-14 (Kikusui x Yakumo) x Yakumo] National Horticultural Research Station, Tsukuba, Japan, 1972. Firm crisp fine-textured juicy mild subacid yet sweet rich-flavored white to off-white flesh is considered by some to be the best-flavored of all Asian pears. Standard commercial variety. Large round-oblate long-stemmed fruit with medium-thick skin covered with glowing yellow-orange-golden brown russet and numerous light-russet dots. Will store for a month. *Hosui* literally means 'much water.' Medium-sized very vigorous productive tree. Susceptible to fireblight. Z5.

278A Hosui, $29.25

Kosui Late Summer. Kikusui x Wasekozo. Natl Hort Res Stn, Tsukuba, Japan, 1959. Crisp, juicy and very sweet. Medium-sized fruit is mostly covered with yellow-golden-brown russet. Early ripening, two weeks before Hosui, and keeps for about two months. *Kosui* means 'good water.' Medium-sized vigorous spreading tree. Some resistance to scab. Z4/5.

280A Kosui, $29.25

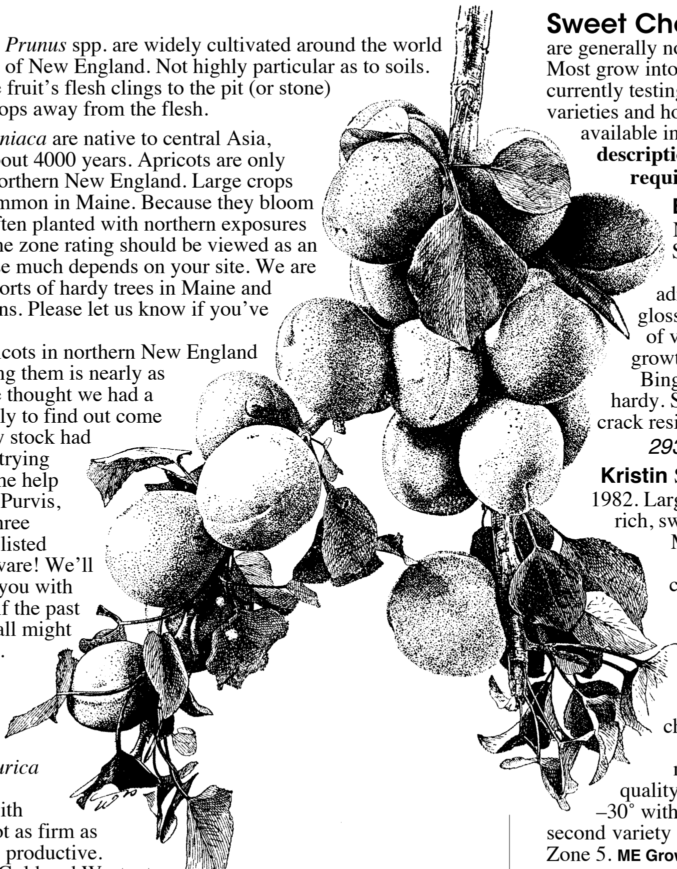
Olympic Fall. Chojuro x *P. ussuriensis*. Chungsil, Korea, 1969. Also called **Dan Bae** and **Korean Giant**. Very large brown-green-orange russeted fruit weighing up to a pound or more, with sweet firm crisp coarse juicy white flesh. Hardy but requires a long growing season, ripening in the fall. May not mature in colder areas. Keeps in the root cellar until spring. Upright spreading productive precocious tree. May have some tolerance to fireblight. Z5.

282A Olympic, $29.25

Shinko Fall. Nijisseiki seedling, Japan, 1941. *Shinko* means 'new success' in Japanese. Medium-large lumpy round brownish russeted fruit. Yellowish flesh is sweet, crisp and juicy, with very good flavor. Ripens late and stores up to three months. Moderately vigorous precocious annually bearing tree. In addition to the other Asian pears, Bartlett is also a good pollinator for Shinko. Fireblight resistant. Z5.

283A Shinko, $29.25

Stone Fruits *Prunus* spp. are widely cultivated around the world and adaptable to most of New England. Not highly particular as to soils. **Clingstone** means the fruit's flesh clings to the pit (or stone) and a **freestone** pit drops away from the flesh.



Apricots *P. armeniaca* are native to central Asia, cultivated there for about 4000 years. Apricots are only marginally hardy in northern New England. Large crops are possible but uncommon in Maine. Because they bloom very early, they are often planted with northern exposures to delay flowering. The zone rating should be viewed as an approximation because much depends on your site. We are on the lookout for reports of hardy trees in Maine and other northern locations. Please let us know if you've had success.

While growing apricots in northern New England is not easy, propagating them is nearly as difficult. Last year we thought we had a great crop of trees, only to find out come spring that the nursery stock had not done well. We're trying again ths year. With the help of apricot expert Bob Purvis, we have located the three high-quality varieties listed below. But please beware! We'll do our best to supply you with top-quality trees, but if the past is any indication, we all might be disappointed again. Plant 15–20' apart. **Self-pollinating**. (3-6' trees)

Brookcot Summer. BF #7-3. *P. mandschurica* seedling. Strathmore, Alberta. Small fruit with good flavor though not as firm as Westcot. Consistently productive. Along with Debbie's Gold and Westcot, highly recommended for coldest districts where apricots have consistently failed. Blooms later than both Debbie's Gold and Westcot. This may be a plus, as one of all apricots' fatal flaws is early blooming. Extremely hardy. Has survived –48°. Upright tree form. Probably Z3.

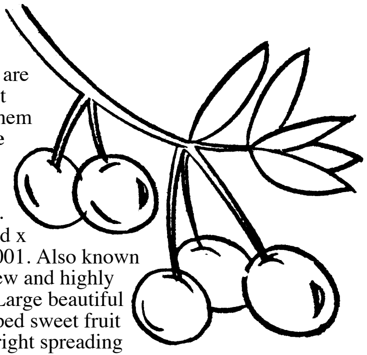
287A Brookcot, $29.25

Debbie's Gold Summer. *P. a. sibirica* seedling. Aubin Nurseries, Carman, Manitoba, about 1980. Pale orange-yellow slightly flattened small fruit. Annual bearer. Similar to Westcot but a bit sweeter. Vigorous somewhat upright and moderately productive tree. Blooms later and fruits later than Westcot. While not as hardy as Westcot, still extremely hardy and highly recommended for coldest districts. Probably Z3.

288A Debbie's Gold, $29.25

Westcot Summer. Scout x McClure. Introduced by Les Kerr, Agriculture Canada, Morden, Manitoba, 1982. Small roundish fruit, yellow-orange with a red blush. Smooth juicy freestone flesh with a mild sweet flavor. Firmer than Debbie's Gold. Vigorous upright spreading productive tree. Blooms a day earlier and fruits before Debbie's Gold. Probably hardiest of the apricots we're offering this year. Pits also the largest! Z3.

289A Westcot, $29.25



Sweet Cherries *P. avium* are generally not hardy in Maine. Most grow into very large trees. We are currently testing some of the hardiest varieties and hope to have more of them available in upcoming years. **See descriptions for pollination requirements.** (3-6' trees)

BlackGold Summer. NY 13791 (Stark Gold x Stella) NY Station, 2001. Also known as **Ridgewood**. A new and highly admired sweet cherry. Large beautiful glossy dark red heart-shaped sweet fruit of very high quality. Upright spreading growth habit. Much more adapted to eastern U.S. conditions than Bing cherry and other "western cherries." Late blooming and very hardy. Survived –33° in SW Minnesota. Self-pollinating. Disease and crack resistant. Z4.

293A BlackGold, $29.25

Kristin Summer. NY1599 (Emperor Francis x Gil Peck) Geneva, NY, 1982. Large very dark red or purplish-black fruit. Firm juicy red flesh is rich, sweet and delicious. Good resistance to fruit cracking. Tested in Montana, New York and Norway (the *country*, not the town in western Maine). Considered to be relatively hardy for a sweet cherry, possibly including protected areas of Zone 4. Ripens in mid-July. Requires a second variety for pollination. Z4/5.

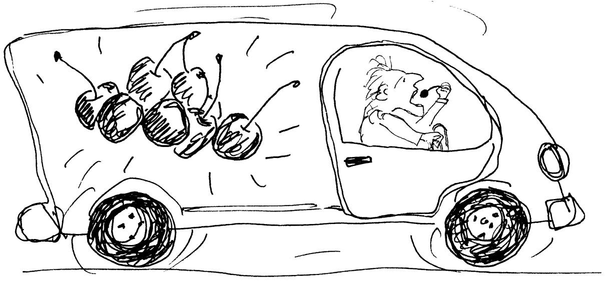
294A Kristin, $29.25

Leningrad Summer. Possibly Black Eagle x Black Tatar. Russia. May also be known as **Leningrad Black**. In our ongoing effort to locate and offer the best of the hardy sweet cherries, we have been very impressed with Leningrad. Our old friend Mark Fulford, fruit grower, explorer and tester, originally brought this Russian variety to our attention. Very good-quality dark red fruit. Upright vigorous tree. The trees have survived –30° with minimal winterkill in our central Maine test plots. Requires a second variety for pollination. Maybe worth a try in Zone 4 and certainly in Zone 5. **ME Grown.**

295A Leningrad, $29.25

Van Summer. Empress Eugenie x open pollinated. B.C. Station, Canada, 1944. Later than other varieties. Bing type. Almost black medium-to-large fruit. Very firm. Heavy annual crops. Somewhat susceptible to cracking. Strong vigorous upright tree. Considered hardier than most varieties. Excellent pollinator, but requires a second variety for pollination. Z5.

296A Van, $29.25

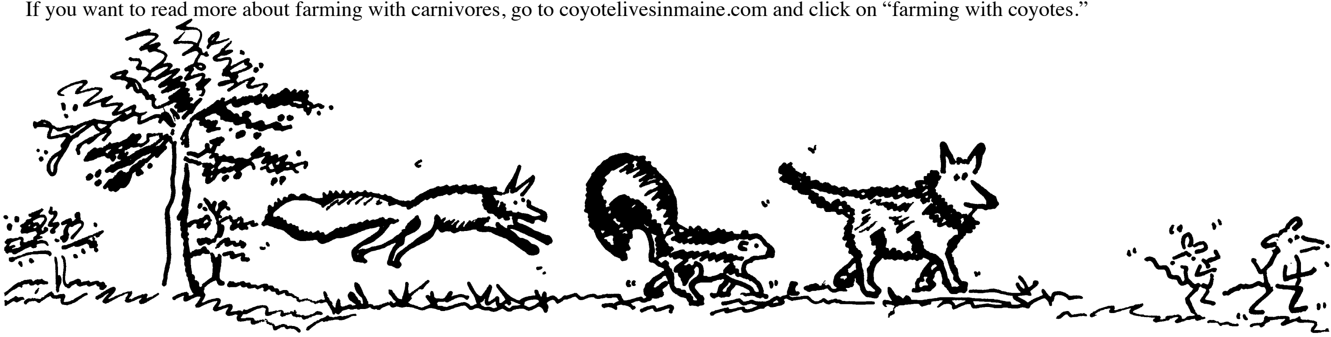


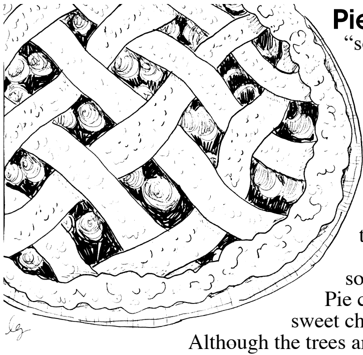
Orcharding with Carnivores

Another set of perceived "weeds" belongs to the animal kingdom. These are the often maligned wild creatures we feel pose a threat to the animals and plants of our farms and gardens. Actually some wild animals can help us in our agricultural endeavors. The coyote is a good example. Coyotes prey on the rodent population and keep other garden-loving herbivores at bay, animals that would love to chomp the bark off our trees or decapitate our young pea shoots. We have a family of coyotes living on the periphery of our homestead, and I suspect I've never seen a woodchuck near the garden because of their presence.

The foxes hunt mice, and the skunks eat insects and raid rodent nests. Even old porcupine has a place in the circle of life. So before you pull out the trap or the gun, consider doing a little research and learn about the roles these animals play in the ecosystem. Remember the old adage "Good fences make good neighbors." This applies to your animal neighbors, too.

If you want to read more about farming with carnivores, go to coyotelivesinmaine.com and click on "farming with coyotes."





Pie Cherries *P. cerasus*

Pie Cherries *P. cerasus* are called "sour," but they're delicious enough to eat right off the tree. They fruit in early to midsummer and don't mind heavy soil. They are especially good in pies. They are generally divided into two groups: **Morello** types have dark red spherical fruit, dark juice and relatively small compact trees. **Montmorency** (or Amarelle) types have light red slightly flattened fruit, clear juice and medium-sized somewhat open trees.

Pie cherries are significantly hardier than sweet cherries but can be frustrating to grow. Although the trees are fully hardy in Zone 3, flower buds may be damaged in colder winters. Some growers in Maine have reported large harvests only to have their trees die unexpectedly a year or two later. We regularly hear reports of excellent crops, so we know it can be done. We are very encouraged by our Garfield Plantation trials. Our hope is to find pie cherries that will be consistently healthy and productive. We are very interested in your successes and failures. If you have had experiences you think might be useful to others, please be in touch. **Pie cherries are self-pollinating, and do not require another variety for pollination**. Plant 15–20' apart. (3-6' trees)

For *P.* x *kerrasis*, Carmine Jewel dwarf sour cherry, see p. 51.

English Morello Summer. Netherlands or Germany, before 1860. Sometimes called **Grosse Cerise a Ratafia**, **Grosse Lang Lothkirsche**, **Griotte du Nord**, **Morris** and **Colorado Morello**. Very dark red-black skin. Dark red flesh and juice. Excellent culinary cherry, recommended for pies and all other cookery. Ripens late, after Montmorency. Distinctive small roundish tree with drooping branches. Brown rot resistant. One of the most famous of all pie cherries. Despite the name we know it by, it is thought to have originated on the Continent, eventually finding its way to England and then to North America. Z4/5.

299A English Morello, $29.25

Evans Mid-Late Summer. Unknown parentage. Edmonton, Alberta. Also called **Bali**. Rescued from obscurity in 1976 by Dr. Ieuan Evans for whom it was named. Popularized in recent years by Bill MacKentley of St. Lawrence Nurseries. Hardiness reports are inconsistent, but our own Aroostook County trials are proving it to be hardier than Meteor, Montmorency or North Star. Cropping and fruit-quality reports are also inconsistent. Some extremely positive and others not so. There is also debate about the differences between grafted trees and "own root" specimens usually started by tissue culture. We are now doing side-by-side trials in four Maine locations to see if we can sort that all out. Large crops of Morello-type fruit are possible and the fruit is considered to be excellent for eating, jams, jellies, pies, dark red juice and wine. Naturally dwarf tree, tolerant of a wide range of soils, although prefers light fertile soils. Z3.

300A Evans, $29.25

Garfield Plantation Summer. Unknown origin. Garfield Plantation, ME. Heirloom pie cherry grown for generations on an Aroostook County farm. One of our most promising finds in our search for varieties that really do produce. In the spring of '09 trees in northern Maine flowered and fruited after –44°. Although the original tree is long gone, it lives on in the form of innumerable young trees that have suckered up for 100' or more behind the farm along the edge of the ubiquitous potato field. You could keep it to a single tree yourself by snipping off any suckers. Hardy, disease resistant, productive and extremely long-lived. Recommended for trial in all areas of northern New England. Z3. **ME Grown**

301A Garfield Plantation, $29.25

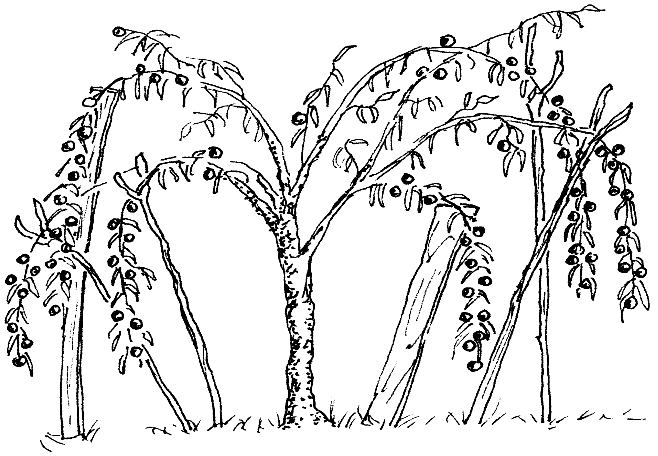
Mesabi Summer. Bing x chance seedling. (Sweet x sour cherry) Duluth, MN, 1964. Red skin and lighter red flesh with clear juice. Considered to be a sour cherry, but sweeter flesh than other pie cherries. Recommended for sauce and pies. Will grow to about 10–14'. We became very curious about Mesabi when we heard reports of 20-year-old trees in Maine remaining healthy and productive. About ten years ago we began a trial on our farm. Our tree has shown no dieback after the last two harsh winters and is fruiting this summer. It has also remained entirely disease free. Z4. **ME Grown.**

302A Mesabi, $29.25

Montmorency Summer. Seedling of Cerise Hâtive or Cerise Commune. Montmorency Valley, France, before 1600. Introduced to the U.S. about 1830. The most famous of all pie cherries. Not widely grown in Europe or Russia but long the standard of excellence in the U.S. Firm-fleshed bright red fruit makes a clear light pink juice. Surprisingly hardy, though not as hardy as Garfield Plantation or Evans. Our Aroostook County test orchard trees fare better than Meteor, but just barely. Should do really well from central Maine south. Appears to be resistant to brown rot. Vigorous productive medium-sized upright-spreading tree tolerates a variety of soils. Parent of Meteor. Z3/4.

303A Montmorency, $29.25

POLES OR LUMBER PROP UP SAGGING LIMBS
BRANCHES MIGHT NOT BREAK



Peaches *P. persica*

Peaches *P. persica* Northern New England peach trees can do very well. They bear young and so heavily that they may break branches if unthinned or unsupported. Trees may also die unexpectedly at any age. Up here peach trees took big hits the last two winters. Some of the trees out in the open at our place died to the ground. The survivors got pretty beat up. However, the young espaliered peach trees planted against the south side of our house look great.

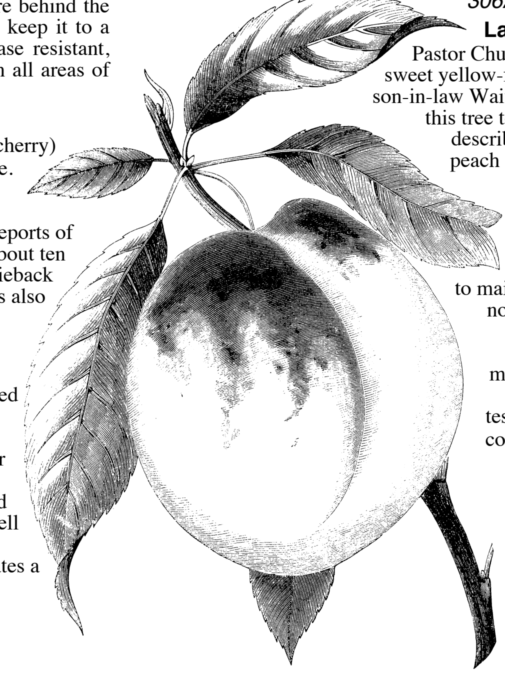
Peaches are usually unaffected by pests or diseases in northern areas, the occasional exception being **peach leaf curl**. PLC is not a fatal problem but does need to be controlled if you get hit with it. Look for crinkled or puckered foliage in spring. Remove affected leaves and compost them. Spray the tree early the following spring while it is still dormant (before any buds open!) with lime sulfur or copper. Onion, garlic or horsetail spray while leafed-out may also be effective.

Peaches fruit on last year's growth! Prune your peach trees in May, once they leaf out. Trim off any dead branches and leave most or all of the live wood. Never prune off all your new growth. If your tree becomes leggy, make a few bold cuts back to a vigorous branch closer to the trunk. That will promote even fruiting throughout your tree.

Peach trees do not need a second tree for pollination. Plant 15–20' apart. (3-6' trees)

Contender Late. NCT 544 (Winblo x complex parentage of North Carolina selections) DJ Werner, JR Ballington and DF Ritchie intro, Ag Experiment Stn, Raleigh, NC, 1988. A fairly new high-quality hardy variety worth trialing in the North. Large round bright red and yellow freestone fruit with a slightly raised suture. Firm melting aromatic yellow flesh. Growth habit similar to Red Haven, ripens 3 weeks later. Resistant to leaf spot. Because it blooms quite late, it might escape late spring frosts. Z4/5.

306A Contender, $29.25



Lars Anderson Early. Uncertain origin. Pastor Chuck Orchards, Cushing, ME. Large juicy sweet yellow-fleshed freestone fruit. Lars Anderson's son-in-law Waite Maclin (AKA Pastor Chuck) brought this tree to our attention several years ago. Waite described the fruit to me as "tasting just like a peach should taste. When I give them away to friends and neighbors they think the peaches have been purchased in the South." Lars Anderson planted the tree on the Maine coast about 1965. He died in 1981 but the family continued to maintain the peach, even after a huge 1982 nor'easter blew the tree to the ground and split it in half. After the old tree finally succumbed in 2009 Waite sent us a monogrammed "slice" of trunk which we display on our mantle. Currently being tested in Zone 4, but for now, it should be considered a Zone 5 plant. **ME Grown**.

307A Lars Anderson, $29.25

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Madison Late. Ideal x Red Haven. VA Stn, 1963. A fine peach for the North, with hardiness similar to Red Haven (though it ripens 3 weeks later). Medium-large fruit with bright orange skin and bright red blush. Orange-yellow firm fine-textured juicy flesh with excellent very sweet rich peach flavor. Very good quality. Skin peels easily. Freestone, excellent canner. Very productive tree. Exceptional tolerance to blossom-season frost. Z5.

308A Madison, $29.25

Red Haven Early-Mid. Halehaven x Kalhaven. MI Ag Exp Stn, 1940. Considered hardy, but not as hardy as Reliance. Medium-sized round fruit with beautiful red and golden-yellow skin and sweet firm fine-textured yellow flesh. Non-browning. Excellent for eating, freezing, canning, shipping. Probably the best-flavored peach we offer; also the world's most widely planted freestone peach. Hardy buds; vigorous highly productive disease-resistant spreading trees are tolerant to bacterial spot. Z5/6.

309A Red Haven, $29.25

Reliance Early-Mid. Open-pollinated seedling of Minn PHO 4559 x Meredith. NH Ag Exp Stn, 1964. Considered the hardiest peach. Medium-sized, roundish, freestone. Rather dull red blush over greenish yellow. Bright yellow flesh, soft and juicy. Flavor usually considered fair, but those who grow it in Maine love it. Often produces large crops. Bears at an early age. May have some resistance to peach leaf curl. Z4/5.

310A Reliance, $29.25

Peach Pit Liqueur

Ever wonder what to do with all those peach pits left over from making jam, fruit leather, brandied peaches, peach wine, cobbler, pie, shortcake and canned peaches? Try peach liqueur—it's very easy to make.

Collect three cups of pits. You can store them for a couple of days if you need to, but after that they start to lose flavor. Using a stiff vegetable brush or the tip of a pointed knife, scrape off the strings and peach bits clinging to the pit.

Place the pits in a quart mason jar, and top off the jar with unflavored vodka. Tighten on the lid. Leave it on your kitchen counter so you will remember to shake it every day for the next 40 days until it is ready.

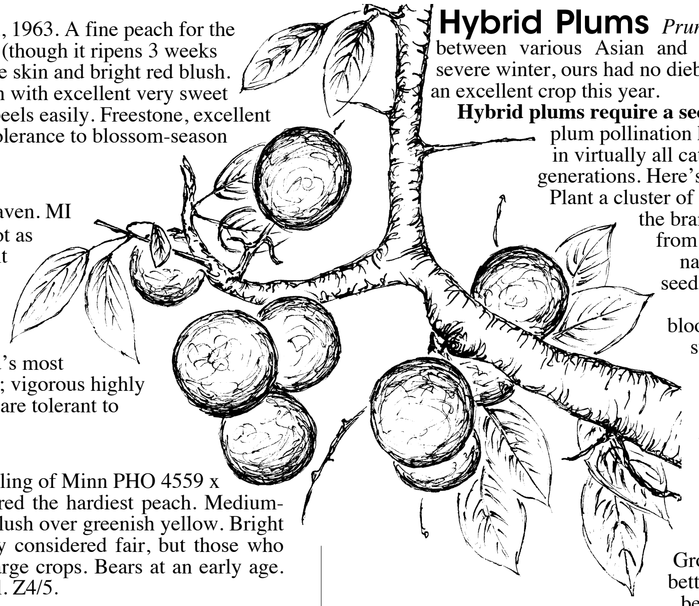
Decant the vodka off the pits and set the pits aside. Take a whiff of the vodka and have a little taste. You might be surprised that the flavor is nothing like peaches—instead the vodka is almond flavored. Now you have a choice: you can bottle it as is, or if you prefer a sweeter liqueur that tastes like amaretto, make a simple syrup and add it to the vodka. You can also add vanilla or a cinnamon stick. Experiment to see what suits your taste.

And don't throw out those used peach pits yet. You can keep covering them with vodka and make liqueur all year long until the next harvest of peaches.

–Cammy Watts

UNLIKE OTHER FRUIT TREES
PRUNE YOUR PEACHES
AFTER THEY LEAF OUT!

> Who knows but this chance wild fruit, planted by a cow or a bird on some remote and rocky hillside, where it is as yet unobserved by man, may be the choicest of all its kind...
>
> –Henry David Thoreau, *Wild Apples*, 1862



Hybrid Plums

Prunus spp. are extremely hardy crosses between various Asian and American species. Despite another severe winter, ours had no dieback or fruit-bud damage, and we had an excellent crop this year.

Hybrid plums require a second variety for pollination. Hybrid plum pollination has been glossed over—or avoided—in virtually all catalogs and fruit-growing literature for generations. Here's what we recommend:

Plant a cluster of trees close enough together (3–6') for the branches to mingle. Our clusters number from three to nearly a dozen trees. Include native plum pollinators (pure American seedlings or varieties) among the hybrids.

With some decent sunshine during bloom, you should get good fruit set. We suggest Toka, South Dakota and Kaga as the best pollinators. We also recommend planting pure *Prunus americana* (#**317A** or #**237A**) or *P. nigra* seedlings or grafted trees in the orchard. We include the American plum seedling in this hybrid section because it may be the best pollinator for the hybrids.

Pollination may improve with heat. Growers in warmer districts often report better success with pollination. This may be because the heat prolongs the bloom season, increasing the number of trees with simultaneous available pollen.

A long cold spring may also help with pollination. Last spring was just that: long and cold. When the plums finally bloomed, they all bloomed at once. (Often the pure Americans bloom later than the hybrids.) This year the blooms overlapped magnificently. The weather during bloom was also sunny. The result was excellent set and the best crop in over a decade. Mother nature trumps again!

Of course, plums are still susceptible to a small pesky insect, the plum curculio. We have read that laying sheets of cardboard under plum (and apple) trees will smother the PC pupae developing in the soil. PC is not difficult to control organically with Surround (see the Organic Growers section of the Seed catalog). There is speculation that planting garlic near your plum trees will ward off PC (and vampires). We've got a trial going and will report back as we learn more.

Bloom times similar for all varieties. Not susceptible to black knot.
(3-6' trees)

Hybrid Plum Collection A package of 7 trees to begin your plum orchard. Our choice of 7 different trees, including at least two pollinators. **Plant trees in one cluster**, with about 3–6' between trees. Let the branches grow right into one another (see above) while still keeping them pruned to allow in plenty of air and light. Trees are individually labeled.

315A Hybrid Plum Collection, bundle of 7, $190.00

American Plum Seedling *P. americana* 15-20' Seedling plum that grows in thickets and produces very decent red, yellow and orange 1" fruit, suitable for fresh eating, canning and freezing. Spectacular white bloom in spring. Red fall color. Plant singly as a graceful specimen or plant 3–6' apart and let the branches intertwine for maximum pollination. Tends to sucker freely. May be the best pollinator for hybrid plums. Plant one of these for every 3 or 4 plum trees, within 10' of each of them. These trees are significantly larger than #**237A**, plum seedling rootstock. Extremely hardy. Z3.

317A American Plum Seedling, $29.25

Black Ice Midsummer. *P.* Lydecker [*P. besseyi* x (*P. salicina* Oka x *P. sal.* Z's Blue Giant)] U of Wisc, River Falls, 2006. Large 2" round early-ripening high-quality hardy blue-black dessert plum. Very sweet juicy reddish-purple semi-freestone flesh. Precocious and productive tree with a naturally compact growth habit. Bred by Brian Smith whom I visited a few years ago on a fruit exploration trip in the Upper Midwest. He graciously showed us all through his amazing nursery in River Falls. He was growing many of his plums in huge tubs, manipulating bloom time using greenhouses and coolers. This enabled him to cross species or varieties that would never normally flower together. Though we're not fans of plant patenting, we are pleased to offer his first major introduction. PVP 16621. The literature recommends Toka or La Crescent as a pollinator. Now in trials at our farm. Z3. **ME Grown.**

318A Black Ice, $29.25

Grenville Late Summer. (*P. sal.* Burbank x *P. nigra*) Canada Dept of Ag Res Stn, Ottawa, 1941. Large dark rosy-red clingstone fruit, resembling Burbank. Yellow flesh has excellent flavor. Vigorous early-blooming tree. Most of the hybrid plums were developed using Asian varieties crossed with *P. americana*. Grenville was bred using *P. nigra*, the extremely hardy Canada plum. Pollination requirements are the same as other hybrids, but the tree and fruit will be somewhat different from the others. Like *P. nigra*, very hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**

320A Grenville, $29.25

Kaga Mid-Late Summer. (*P. a.* x *P. simonii*) NE Hansen intro, SD Stn, 1909. Small 1" purple-black fruit. Good eating out of hand when they're dead ripe. Exceptional in jams and jellies due to the meatiness of the black flesh. This is not one of those plums that dissolves and dribbles down your chin. The most profuse bloomer in Mark Fulford's plum collection, coming right in the middle of plum season. Mark considers it to be an excellent pollinator for other hybrid plums. It also bears reliably in his Monroe, ME, orchard. Now on trial in our Palermo orchard. Dense naturally dwarf tree grows to about 10'. *Kaga* is the Sioux word for 'pitch a tent.' Z3. **ME Grown**.

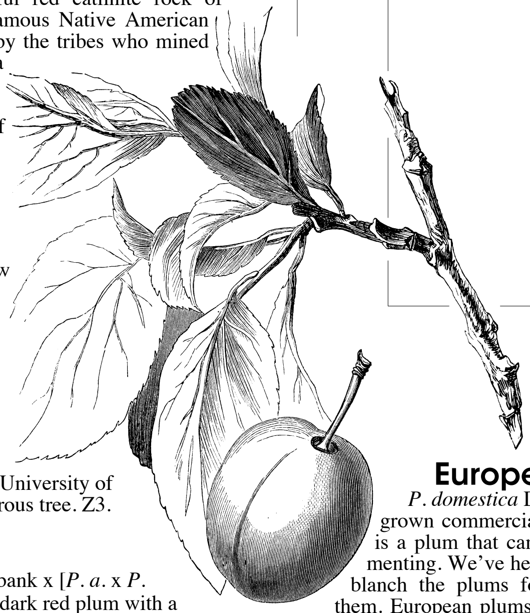
321A Kaga, $29.25

La Crescent Late Summer. (*P. sal.* Shiro x *P. a.* Howard Yellow) U Minn, 1923. Also known as **Golden La Crescent** or **Golden Minnesota**. Most of the hybrid plum varieties are colored with some variation of red and orange with a little purple tossed in. Yellow-skinned La Crescent is one notable exception. The beautiful roundish tender thin-skinned yellow fruit is sometimes blushed with a little pink. Tender yellow juicy flesh of excellent quality is sweet, aromatic and suggestive of apricots. Freestone. Upright spreading vigorous tree. Z3/4. **ME Grown**.

322A La Crescent, $29.25

Pipestone Late Summer. MN 218 [*P. sal.* Burbank x (*P. sal.* x *P. a.* Wolf)] U Minn, 1942. Juicy yellow-fleshed clingstone plum with excellent sweet flavor. Tough thin skin peels easily. Large deep red fruit with a golden blush presumably named in honor of the beautiful red catlinite rock of Pipestone, MN. Home of one of the most famous Native American quarries, long considered to be a sacred site by the tribes who mined the quartzite rock for their pipes. Designated a national monument in 1937, Pipestone even makes an appearance in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's famous 1855 poem "The Song of Hiawatha." Vigorous reliable tree. Z3.

324A Pipestone, $29.25



South Dakota Late Summer. SD 27. *P. a.* Unknown parentage. U Minn/SD Ag Exp Stn, 1949. Small to medium fruit has tough yellow skin with bright red blush. Medium-firm yellow flesh is meaty, juicy, sweet. Fresh-eating quality is excellent. Fully freestone. Because of its very long flowering period and American pedigree, we recommend South Dakota as a pollinator for all hybrid plums. In our orchard it's still blooming when the other plums have dropped their flowers. Also ripens after the other hybrids are done. Developed by NE Hansen before 1907. One of Hansen's students took it to the breeding program at the University of Minnesota where it was later introduced. Vigorous tree. Z3. **ME Grown**.

326A South Dakota, $29.25

Superior Late Summer. MN 194 (*P. sal.* Burbank x [*P. a.* x *P. sim.*] Kaga) U Minn, 1933. Very large conical dark red plum with a heavy bloom and superior dessert quality. Firm sweet yellow flesh is smooth-textured, extremely juicy and clingstone. Very good fresh eating. Precocious production, vigorous tree. May show some dieback in coldest locations, likely because of its Burbank parentage. Z3/4.

327A Superior, $29.25

Toka Late Summer. (*P. a.* x *P. sim.*) NE Hansen intro, SD Exp Stn, 1911. Rosy red fruit, up to 1$^1/_2$" in diameter, mottled with darker purplish-red and covered with a faint bloom. Grower Don Johnson's comment: "Talk about flavor: candy plum." Ed Fackler called Toka the best-flavored plum he grew in his Indiana orchard. Sweet, distinctive, meaty and flavorful. Not real juicy. Somewhat freestone. Extremely vigorous tree blooms heavily every year. Diligent pruning may be required to keep it from becoming a bit of a monster. Considered a good pollinator for other hybrid plums. Z3.

328A Toka, $29.25

Underwood Midsummer. MN 91 [(*P. sim.* x *P. sal.* Shiro) x *P. a.* Wyant] U Minn, 1921. Medium-to-large 2" dull red fruit. Firm sweet juicy golden-yellow semi-freestone flesh, very good for eating and cooking. Long picking season. Blooms earlier and longer than most hybrids and appears to be a very good pollinator for other hybrid plums, including Purple Heart. Northern Maine grower Steve Miller considers it one of his most reliable bearers. Long ripening season. Vigorous large spreading tree. Z3. **ME Grown**.

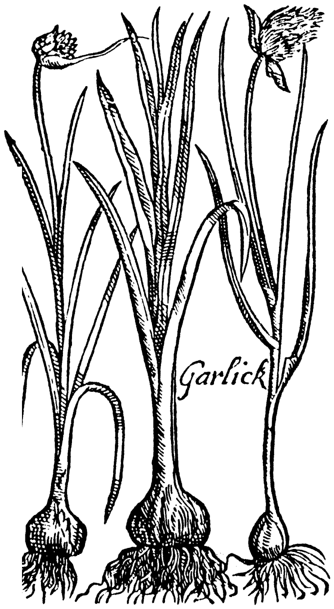
329A Underwood, $29.25

Waneta Midsummer. (*P. sal.* Apple x *P. a.* Terry) NE Hansen intro, SD Exp Stn, 1913. Released when hybrid plums were an important and commercially viable crop. Named after a Yanktonai youth who won fame in the War of 1812 and later became a great chief. Large, somewhat pointed, 1$^1/_2$–2" reddish-maroon fruit. Sweet tender translucent orange flesh is very juicy but not dripping. Medium-thick skin, tart and easy to peel. Delicious overall taste. Hansen said of Waneta: "My belief is that in this variety I have combined the best points of the native and the Japanese plum. It is probably the largest [fruit] of over 10,000 seedlings." Early blooming healthy open spreading tree bears reliably in our orchard. Z3.

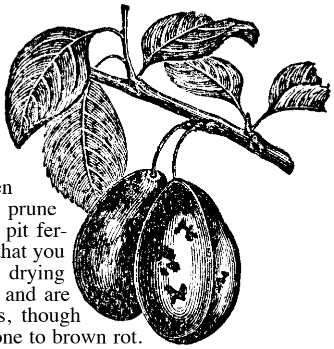
330A Waneta, $29.25

Plum Curculio... and garlic

Plum curculio is a terrible plum and apple pest. Many organic growers spray Surround clay powder on their trees to combat this weevil. Many years ago we planted garlic near one of our apple trees and neglected to harvest all the bulbs. Now we have a small colony of garlic plants around the tree. Recent reports are touting garlic as a curculio deterrent. Anecdotal evidence suggests the garlic may be working at our place. Plant more garlic!



European plums



P. domestica Delicious fresh and often grown commercially for prunes. A true prune is a plum that can be dried without the pit fermenting. We've heard recommendations that you blanch the plums for 45 seconds before drying them. European plums produce smaller fruit and are generally not as hardy as the hybrid plums, though they can handle heavier soils and are less prone to brown rot. Unlike hybrids, they are prone to the fungal disease black knot, which looks like black chewing gum and appears on branches. While not necessarily fatal, it must be kept in check by removing and destroying infected branches. Trees grow upright and are usually trained to a central leader. Although **European plums are self-pollinating**, planting two different varieties will improve pollination. (3-6' trees)

Mount Royal Late Summer. Chance seedling, Outremont, Quebec, before 1903. Popular plum in Quebec and the northern U.S. for many years. Also called **Mont-Royal**. Discovered by Mr. Corse in or near Montreal sometime between 1830-1850. Bears abundant annual crops of medium-sized roundish dark purple fruit. Often considered the sweetest of the European plums. The flesh is greenish-yellow, juicy and firm. Use fresh, dried, frozen, canned and in preserves. Medium-sized tree is open with good crotch angles and requires only moderate pruning. Z3.

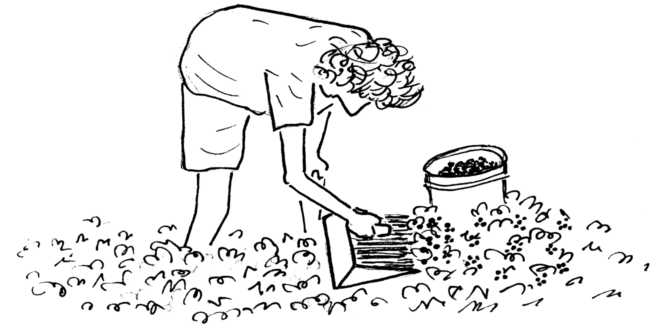
337A Mount Royal, $29.25

Opal Midsummer. Oullins x Early Favorite. Alnarp, Sweden, 1948. Wisconsin plum breeder Brian Smith noted that Opal is the hardiest European plum available. Bob Purvis reported it to be hardy to about –33°. Some years ago we sent 25 trees up to Alaska. Kevin Irvin, then vice president of the Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association, arranged the order. He wrote to me, "This plum is hardy in Anchorage, AK, and ripens dependably every year." One of the first Europeans to fruit in the season. Good quality, reddish-purple, medium-sized, round, semi-freestone. Firm yellow flesh. Medium-sized vigorous tree. Excellent cropper. Z3. **ME Grown**.

338A Opal, $29.25

Stanley Late Summer. Agen x Grand Duke. NY Station, 1926. Most popular European prune plum in America with the possible exception of 'Italian.' Excellent for cooking, eating, canning and drying. Medium-to-large oval fruits with dark blue skin. Green-yellow firm but tender juicy fine-grained sweet flesh. Reliably bearing fast-growing adaptable medium-to-large funnel-shaped tree produces healthy vigorous annual crops. Z4.

339A Stanley, $29.25



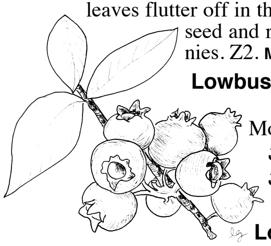
Lowbush Blueberries

Woodsy dry poor acid soil (pH 4.0–5.2) is a prerequisite for lowbush blueberries. If you've got white pine, you're probably all set. Plant 12" apart each way and cultivate as a ground cover. **Generally self-pollinating**; other blueberries nearby will help ensure pollination. Full sun is best for maximum fruit production. Keep your patch weed free.

Small Fruits & Berries

Lowbush Blueberry *Vaccinium angustifolium* 6-24" and spreading. Blueberry growers in Maine usually don't bother with the "lowbush" distinction; to them, this is the only true blueberry. Though plants and berries are diminutive, the taste is supreme. Lustrous blue-green medicinal foliage is good in teas and turns an amazing combination of bronze, orange and scarlet in the fall. Grown in Maine long before Europeans came Downeast, blueberries are still a local favorite and cultivated on thousands of acres.

To speed harvesting, berries are usually raked rather than hand-picked. You comb the rake a bit into the bushes (but not deeply so!), tilt it back and the berries pop off and roll into the pan. As the saying goes, "the lighter the hand, the more berries in the pan." You will also inevitably accumulate small twigs and leaves and various other odds and ends. Best raking is done on a breezy day. Lift the rake above your pail (we use a 5 gallon bucket) and pour. Ideally the berries will stream into the bucket while the twigs and leaves flutter off in the wind. Native to northeastern U.S. Spreads by seed and rhizomes. Transplants will gradually form colonies. Z2. **ME Grown**.



Lowbush Blueberry Seedlings 4x4" multi-stemmed bare-root seedlings from North Branch Farm in Monroe, ME. Single plants.

343A Lowbush Blueberry Seedling, $13.75
343B Lowbush Blueberry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $58.00

Lowbush Blueberry Sod Squares 6x6" sods from blueberry fields of Ewing Fruit Co. in Warren, ME. Mat of roots, great for colonizing large areas quickly.

344A Lowbush Blueberry Sod, $15.00
344B Lowbush Blueberry Sods, bundle of 5, $65.00

Highbush Blueberries *V. corymbosum* are native to North America. Many of Maine's lakes are lined with massive stands of highbush blueberries. Grazing the shore requires only time and a suitable vessel; we prefer kayak or canoe. The beautiful vigorous shrubs are extremely easy to grow at home, productive and reliable, with few disease or insect problems. By planting several varieties, you can harvest berries from early July through most of August. Bears first crop 3–7 years after planting. Productive for at least 20 or 30 years. Berries may turn blue before they reach their peak flavor. Leave them on the bush until they are fully ripe. Check a few before you pick them all! **Two varieties are required, three or more recommended, for pollination**. (1-2' 2-yr transplants)

Bluecrop Early-Midseason. GM 37 (Jersey x Pioneer) x CU-5 (Stanley x June) USDA, NJ, 1952. Medium-sized firm subacid fruit; very light blue berries of high dessert quality, resistant to cracking. Medium-large open clusters. Vigorous upright 4–6' consistently productive bush. Ripens over a long season. Pruning will help maintain fruit size. Z4.

345A Bluecrop Blueberry, $13.75

Blueray Early-Mid. 4-6' (GM 37 x CU-5) USDA, NJ, 1955. Large firm dark blue berries of high dessert quality in small clusters. Considered the best-tasting by nearly everyone who grows highbush blueberries. Very vigorous bush with upright spreading habit. Consistently productive. Z4.

346A Blueray Blueberry, $13.75

Elizabeth Mid-Late. 5-6'. Introduced in 1966 by Elizabeth White of New Jersey who found numerous heavy-fruiting strains from wild bushes that became the parents of many of today's cultivars. Friend and avid fruit grower Dan Kennedy of Searsmont, ME, grows 17 different varieties of highbush and rates it and Blueray as his top favorites. He describes the bushes as bearing dense clusters of large fruit with a balanced flavor of sweet and tart. Stores well in refrigeration. Large vigorous upright shrub has strong spreading lateral branches. Z4.

347A Elizabeth Blueberry, $13.75

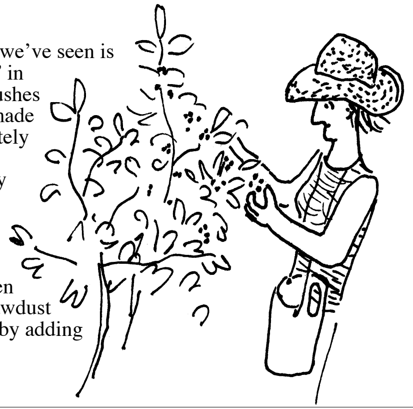
Highbush Blueberries are shallow-rooted and like light acid soil (pH 4.0–5.2) with plenty of organic matter, good drainage, and plenty of water. Space them 3–6' apart (3' for the shorter varieties) in rows 8–10' apart. If your soil is lacking acidity, add peat, woods humus, or 1 cup elemental sulfur per bush.

Dig a hole at least twice the size of the root ball. If you use peat, soak it and then mix it with soil at a one-to-one ratio. We suggest dipping roots in Agri-gel. Plant at the same depth as in the nursery. Do not let the roots dry out! Pack the soil firmly and water thoroughly. Plants require at least 1" water per week during the growing season. On most soils, blueberries require regular applications of nitrogen. In the spring, apply a high-nitrogen fertilizer, such as $^{1}/_{2}$–1 qt composted hen manure per plant.

Fruit is produced on vigorous one-year shoots off healthy canes. As canes age they become twiggy and less productive. Begin pruning after three years. Head back long pieces of new growth for a bushier plant. Cut out weak or dead canes and dead tips. Each bush should be allowed to grow 6–10 canes varying in age from 1–6 years old. Thereafter, remove dead canes and those over 6 years old and encourage new replacement canes. Bushes with regular moderate pruning produce the most berries.

Berries may need net protection from birds. One of the best arrangements we've seen is John Meader's netted "house" in Buckfield. He has about 40 bushes growing under a framework made of posts and 2x4s and completely covered in netting.

Competition with grass may weaken and kill your blueberries. Mulch heavily (3–6" or more) every year with pine needles, cardboard, wood chips, hay, sawdust, even old slab wood. When using sawdust you may want to compensate by adding extra nitrogen.



Elliott Very Late. 4-6'. Burlington x [Dixi x (Jersey x Pioneer)] USDA, 1974. A real season-extender. Considered the latest of all varieties, Elliott ripens two weeks after Jersey. Loose clusters of medium-sized very firm mild-flavored light blue berries. Slightly spreading somewhat bushy upright plant is highly productive every year, in part because it blooms late and escapes spring frosts. Z4.

348A Elliot Blueberry, $13.75

Jersey Mid-Late. 5-7'. Rubel x Grover. USDA, 1928. The beloved old standard of blueberry introductions to which new varieties are compared. Medium-to-large dark blue berries in large loose clusters. Vigorous erect hardy bush. Productive, adapted to a wide range of soils, highly praised, easy to grow and suited to the New England climate. Z4.

349A Jersey Blueberry, $13.75

Meader Early-Mid. 5-7'. Elwyn Meader intro, Univ of NH Ag Exp Stn, Durham, NH, 1971. Medium-large medium-blue fruit with excellent flavor. Sweet with a hint of acid. Vigorous upright open lightly spreading form. Very hardy. Z4 or even Z3.

350A Meader Blueberry, $13.75

Nelson Late. 5-6' Bluecrop x G-107 (F-72 x Berkeley) USDA, NJ, 1989. Firm large dark blue berries in loose clusters taste great, similar to Bluecrop. Particularly vibrant red fall foliage. Upright vigorous high-yielding bush. Z4.

351A Nelson Blueberry, $13.75

Patriot Early-Mid. 4'. US3 (Dixi x Michigan LB-1) x Earliblue (Stanley x Weymouth) U Maine, 1976. Partial lowbush parentage. Adaptable to many soil types. Productive berry will fill your super bowl *every* year! Large firm berries with excellent flavor. Upright open spreading bush. Tolerant or resistant to some strains of soil fungus. Hardy. Z3.

352A Patriot Blueberry, $13.75

Reka Early. E118 [(Earliblue x Ashworth) x Bluecrop] Ruakura RRC intro, New Zealand, 1985. Flavorful medium-sized slightly tart berries. Higher productivity at a younger age than most other blueberries with consistently high yields for years to come. Still in the trial phase here in Maine so we've yet to see for ourselves. Fast growing and adaptable, sand to heavy clay. Upright vigorous habit, reaches 4–6'. Z4.

353A Reka Blueberry, $13.75

St. Cloud Early-Mid. B19 (G65 x Ashworth) x US3. U Minn, 1990. Lowbush-highbush hybrid with firm dark blue medium-large highly flavorful sweet fruit. We're excited to see how this new offering compares to our old favorites. Crisp texture, stores well in refrigeration. Foliage turns orange in fall. Short spreading canes reach 4' at maturity. Z3.

354A St Cloud Blueberry, $13.75

Raspberries *Rubus* spp. We love raspberries: fresh or frozen, in smoothies, jam and especially pie. We even like the dried foliage—best taken from the first-year primocanes—which makes a delicious and healthful tea. A leaf and fruit vinegar is very high in minerals, and the leaf tea makes a great astringent and tasty tonic. The root bark is also medicinal. Native to North America, Europe and Asia, they are usually identified as *R. idaeus* or *R. i.* var. *strigosus*. 53 different *Rubus* species and subspecies live in Maine.

A second variety is not needed for pollination.

Please note: Raspberries have very fine, fibrous roots. Often they do not sprout from the plant stem after planting. This is OK. Be patient! Keep them well watered and they should all break dormancy, sprout from the roots and thrive for many years to come. All of our canes are well-rooted, bare-root and certified virus-free.

Everbearing Raspberries bear on first-year canes (primocanes). Everbearing types are particularly desirable for northern growers because they can die (or be cut) to the ground and still produce a sizable crop the following year. In central Maine the first of these ripens in mid-late August.

Anne Late. JEF-b1 (Amity x Glen Garry) U of MD, 1998. Everbearing sweet flavorful pale yellow raspberry ripens in fall. Large cohesive conic fruit stores decently, firmer than other yellows. Semi-vertical canes may sucker less than most everbearing types. Cut it entirely to the ground after the season is over. Resistant to phytophthora root rot. Z4.

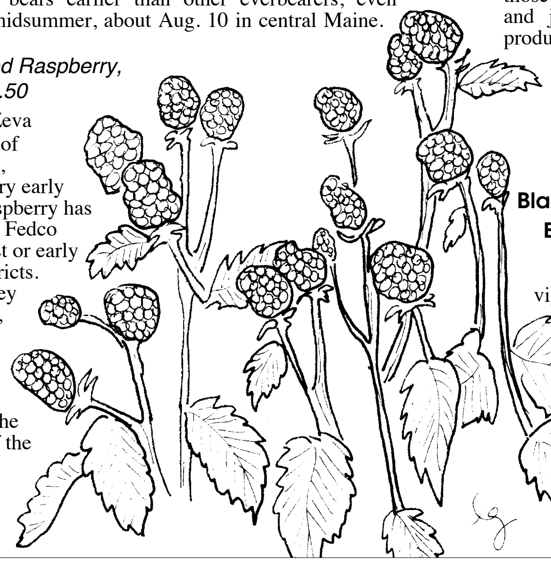
357A Anne Raspberry, bundle of 10, $29.50

August Red Late. NH R7 [Durham x NH 102 (dwarf F2 seedling x Taylor)] x NY 287 [NY 18810 (Marcy x Indian Summer) x NY 20990 (*R. strigosus* selection)] Developed by EM Meader, UNH, 1973. We are very pleased to offer this rare variety, custom-propagated by Nourse Farms. Considered the hardiest of the everbearing types—the last hope when no other raspberry will survive. Medium-large crimson fruit has excellent flavor. Compact 3' bush bears earlier than other everbearers, even Polana. They produce in midsummer, about Aug. 10 in central Maine. Z3. **ME Grown**

358A August Red Raspberry, bundle of 5, $29.50

Polana Late. Heritage x Zeva Herbsternte. Research Inst of Pomology and Floriculture, Brzezna, Poland, 1991. Very early fruiting everbearing red raspberry has performed very well in our Fedco trials. Ripens in late August or early September in northern districts. According to David Handley of the University of Maine, "as near a thing to a sure bet." Large firm berries with very good flavor on vigorous and productive short canes. Easy to pick: the berries hang off the tops of the plants. Suckers freely. Z4.

359A Polana Raspberry, bundle of 10, $29.50



Summer-bearing Raspberries bear on second-year canes (floricanes). Midseason berries ripen around late July in central Maine.

Boyne Early-Mid. Chief x Indian Summer. Morden Research Stn, Manitoba, Canada, 1960. Round-conic medium-sized berries with an intense deep dark almost purple color. Strong aromatic tart raspberry flavor and a perfect medium-soft texture. Grower John Meader speaks glowingly of Boyne, calling it "an excellent, excellent variety. Boyne is the one to beat if you're going to introduce a new raspberry." Leaves tend to curl down over the fruit making it harder to pick if you're in a hurry. According to friends who make honey and fruit butters, there is no better raspberry for processing. No disease and very little pest damage. Extremely hardy. Z3.

360A Boyne Raspberry, bundle of 10, $29.50

Latham Mid. MN4 (King x Loudon) U. Minn 1920. A standard raspberry for almost a century, extremely popular and widely grown. Large bright red 1" fruit is roundish, firm, a little crumbly and sprightly sweet, full-flavored and aromatic. Great for fresh eating, canning, freezing, jam, juice or pie. Ripens over an extended season making it an ideal candidate for the home garden. Canes are 4–5' tall and highly productive. Not as spiny as most raspberries. Widely adaptable and very winter hardy. Disease resistant. Z3.

361A Latham Raspberry, bundle of 10, $29.50

Nova Mid. Southland x Boyne. Kentville, Nova Scotia, Canada, 1981. In our trials Nova appears as hardy, if not hardier than Boyne with equally amazing fruit quality. Medium-sized firm somewhat acid bright red fruit. Summer-bearing. Upright productive minimally spiny canes produce long fruiting laterals that make the fruit easy to pick. Z3.

362A Nova Raspberry, bundle of 10, $29.50

Royalty Purple Mid. (Cumberland x Newburgh) x (Newburgh x Indian Summer) NY Stn, 1982. Their distinctive flavor is different from the red raspberries, with a hint of black raspberry. A favorite for fresh eating among those who know it. Cohesive fairly firm large berries make outstanding jam and jelly, too. Extremely robust minimally suckering plants are very productive and open-formed; the berries are eye-level and easy to pick. Ready to harvest when they are deep purple, somewhat later than the reds. Plant in hills (see sidebar). Usually considered Zone 4 but is proving itself into Zone 3 with occasional slight tip dieback. Disease resistant. Z3/4.

363A Royalty Purple Raspberry, bundle of 5, $29.50

Black Raspberries

Bristol Midsummer. Watson Prolific x Honeysweet. NY St Ag Exp Stn intro, Geneva, NY, 1934. Medium-large firm glossy black fruit with excellent sweet blackberry-like flavor very distinct from reds. Hardy, vigorous and high-yielding. They ripen earlier in central Maine than most raspberries and require a different pruning strategy. The long canes arch way out then root themselves when they touch the ground. Pile a little soil over the rooting spot and in a year or so you'll have more plants to spread around the yard or neighborhood. Or prune the canes in mid-July to about waist high and you'll get branchier plants and more fruit. Susceptible to anthracnose and tolerant to powdery mildew. Z4.

364A Bristol Black Raspberry, bundle of 5, $29.50

Blackberries

Nelson Midsummer. Nelson has been surviving Maine winters for at least a century. Introduced to us by the descendants of Nelson Fronk, whose 1928 family photograph taken on their farm northeast of Farmington shows the blackberries growing next to the barn. John Meader grows Nelson and calls it "exceptionally hardy," one of the most enduring blackberries he has ever grown. Tall sturdy upright inch-thick canes can be grown on posts but also do well free standing. Fruit is moderately large and quite juicy with true blackberry taste. Highly productive: 16–18 blossoms on the central stalk is the most John has ever seen on a blackberry. He gets four good pickings from his patch over two weeks in mid-August. Excellent jelly and good fresh eating. Disease resistant and certified virus-free. Like all blackberries, spreads quickly so give it room to move. Z4, maybe Zone 3. **ME Grown.**

367A Nelson Blackberry, bundle of 5, $29.50

Raspberries and Blackberries

Prior to planting, soak canes in Agri-gel. (See sidebar.) Cane fruits have shallow perennial roots. They prefer full sun, good air circulation and well-drained soil rich in organic matter. Avoid soils where tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, strawberries or wild brambles have grown. A well-kept patch can last 10–20 years.

Prepare planting holes by adding manure (15 bushels dry or 10 bushels fresh per 100 sq ft) and make each large enough to spread out the roots. Do not allow the fine roots to dry out. We suggest soaking roots in Agri-gel for 1–2 hours before planting. Plant 1–2" deeper than in the nursery and then cut the canes off at ground level. Mulch with a thick layer of woodchips. Fertilize liberally each spring with up to 100 lbs manure or compost, 8 lbs bloodmeal or 14 lbs soybean meal per 100 foot row. Some sources recommend additional nitrogen feeding each June and August. Plants require 2" water per week during the growing season.

- **Summer-bearing raspberries**: To make a hedgerow, trellis between two wires about 3–4' off the ground and 18–36" apart. Space plants 2' apart. After harvest, prune to the ground the canes that carried fruit (or remove them the following spring). Thin the fresh first-year canes to about 3–4" apart. They will bear fruit next year. During the growing season cut back canes to 5' if they are bending over severely.
- **Purple and black raspberries** and **blackberries**: Plant in hills 3–4' apart, 3–4 plants per hill. Tie to a center post for support, if needed. Basic pruning is same as above. As they fill in, thin to 5–8 canes per hill. During the early summer, pinch back tip of first year canes to $2\frac{1}{2}$–3' tall. This will encourage lateral fruiting branches. You may run a wire between hills for lateral branching but this is not necessary. In the following spring, cut these fruiting laterals back to 8–12 buds.
- **Everbearing raspberries**: Plant 9–15" apart. Because everbearing types bear fruit on first-year and second-year canes, you have a couple of options. In warmer districts, you can leave the first-year canes to overwinter after they fruit. The following year, you will get a light crop in early summer from those now two-year-old canes, followed by a larger crop later from the new first-year canes. In colder areas generally you would cut all canes to the ground in late fall after the leaves drop, or in early spring; new first-year canes will fruit in mid-late summer.

Agri-gel A hydrogel formulation that absorbs and holds water. The swollen crystals adhere to plant roots, reducing transplant shock. Safe, nontoxic, easy to use. Useful for garden seedlings as well as woody plants. Highly recommended for raspberries and conifers. Half-ounce packet mixed with 1–3 gallons of water will treat up to 100 cane plants, or 50 trees and shrubs. *Not allowed for organic certification.* $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

L616A Agrigel, $3.00

Strawberries *Fragaria* x *ananassa* A major highlight of every summer is picking strawberries. In central Maine strawberry season usually coincides with the summer solstice. Although no one knows where the common name *strawberry* originated, idle speculation has it that it comes from the practice of putting straw down between the rows for pickers to sit on while they sample the fruit and catch up with each other.

Modern strawberries, developed about 1830, are a hybrid of *F. chiloensis* (native of Chile) and *F. virginiana* (native of North America). Royce Bringhurst of the University of California-Davis developed day-neutral strawberries from wild plants found in Utah's Wasatch Mountains. He crossed these with modern commercial varieties and introduced the first day-neutrals in 1980.

50 plants will plant from 50–100'. (virus-free bare-root stock)

Cabot Mid-Late. K87-5 x K86-19. Kentville, Nova Scotia, Canada, 1998. Best flavor of the northern hardy large-berried varieties. Wow your friends and fill the freezer with these huge firm conical bright red glossy berries. May not run as freely as other varieties, so plant them a bit closer than usual. Be sure to add extra fertilizer and mulch. Highly disease resistant. Z4.

L369A Cabot Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

Earliglow Early. MDUS 3861 [MDUS 2359 (Fairland x Midland)] x [MD2713 (Redglow x Surecrop)] Maryland Ag Exp Stn, 1966. Medium-sized berries, best for fresh eating and freezing. Excellent flavor for an early berry. Barbara Bowling called it the best-flavored of all varieties in *The Berry Grower's Companion*. Also a favorite of strawberry growers at Sand Hill Farm. Resistant to red stele and verticillium wilt. Hardy, but considerably more productive in southern New England than up north. Z3.

L370A Earliglow Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

Honeoye Early-Mid. NY 1409 (Vibrant x Holiday) NY Station, 1979. Folks pronounce it *honey-eye*. Tough, hardy, vigorous, extremely productive and easy to grow. The freezer-filler of the strawberry patch. Large conic bright red fruit produces over a long fruiting season. Firm flesh with tart—and surprisingly good—flavor. Excellent freezing quality. A week before Jewel. Probably the most popular commercial berry in the Northeast. Plant in well-drained soil to avoid red stele. Susceptible to verticillium wilt. Z3/4.

L371A Honeoye Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

Jewel Mid-Late. NY 1324 [(Senga Sengana x NY E-58) x Holiday] NY Stn, 1985. Shaun Keenan of Sand Hill Farm suggested we add Jewel to our list; he even went so far as to say that Jewel tastes almost as good as Sparkle. Although we don't think we'd go quite that far, we were very impressed with the berry. Large shiny red perfectly shaped fruit is firm, sweet and slightly aromatic. Unlike Sparkle, Earliglow and many other varieties, it keeps its size all season. Extremely popular with commercial growers and Gene's favorite. Good freezing quality. Low incidence of fruit rots and foliar diseases. Not resistant to verticillium or red stele. Z4.

L372A Jewel Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

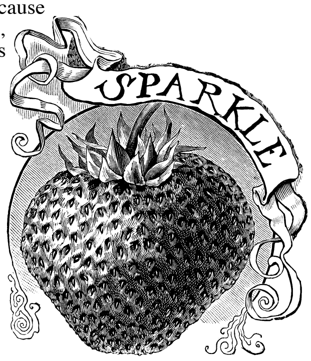
Mara des Bois (Gento x Osara) x (Red Gauntlet x Korona) Hybridized by Jacques Marionett, Soings En Sologne, France, 1991. **Everbearing** strawberry claimed to be the most flavorful and fragrant of the day neutrals, often referred to as "gourmet." Berries are high in methyl anthranilate, the volatile compound that gives them their strong fragrance. Commercially grown in France where they are sold at a premium. Shorter shelf life makes them better suited for local markets. Plants bear medium-small glossy red berries prolifically from summer into fall the first year. Second year bears a heavy spring crop with continuously ripening berries throughout the summer. Z4.

L373A Mara des Bois Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

Seascape CN 49. Developed by Royce Bringhurst, U Cal, Davis, 1991. **Everbearing** day-neutral strawberry sets flower buds regardless of day length, produces over a very long season, fruiting all summer and into fall. Remove flower buds for the first 6 weeks after planting and you'll still get a crop the first year. Seascape is showing excellent results in Northeast trials. Medium-to-long conic high-yielding firm productive reliable fruit with bright red color and excellent flavor. Broad resistance to fungal diseases. Somewhat susceptible to common leaf spot and two-spotted spider mite. Should be hardy in all but the coldest districts. Z3.

L374A Seascape Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

Sparkle Mid-Late. Fairfax x Aberdeen. NJ Ag Exp Stn, 1942. Although not a favorite with commercial growers because of moderate crop size and smaller berries, we've yet to taste a strawberry that comes even remotely close to Sparkle. They possess a flavor that can only be described as the essence of strawberry. The best in an early year, the best in a late year, the best this year, last year, every year. This is the berry if you want to eat the perfect strawberry. Soft berries make delicious fresh eating and are also excellent for jams and freezing. One of its few drawbacks is that it tends to lose color in the freezer. First fruit set is large; the rest are small. Resistant to most strains of red stele. Blooms late, rarely affected by spring frost. Z3.



L375A Sparkle Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

Strawberries

Keep cold or refrigerate between arrival and planting. We ship with roots slightly on the dry side. If you cannot plant them for a while, uncover the roots, mist them with water and re-cover, leaving tops exposed. Place bundle in paper bag and store on the bottom shelf of your fridge. Don't be alarmed if the tops become brown or mushy: they will generate new leaves.

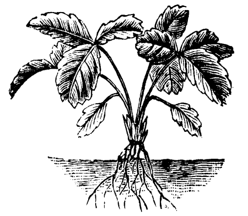
Strawberries require good air drainage, well-drained fertile soil with pH of 5.8–6.2, thick mulch and full sun. Avoid soils where tomatoes, peppers or potatoes have grown in the past 4 years. Plant strawberries at the same depth as they were in the nursery, with the middle of the crown at soil level. Keep your patch free of weeds. They require 3/4–1" water per week during April, May, August, September and October. Mulch with hay or straw in late fall to protect plants over winter. In the spring, pull mulch off plants and place between rows where it will keep fruit dry and clean during the summer. It can also be raked back over the plants if frost threatens flower buds. Floating rowcover may also be used for winter and frost protection.

June-Bearing Strawberries

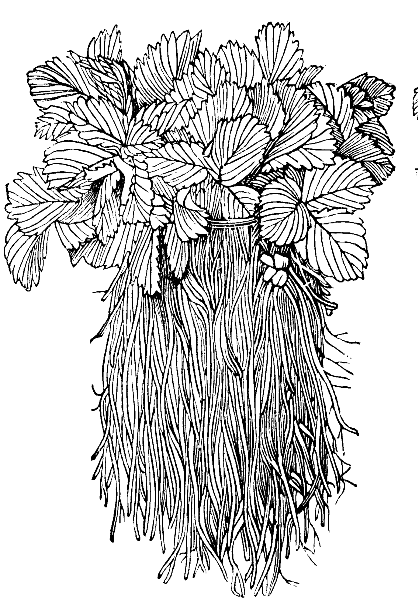
Matted Row system: Set plants 12–24" apart in rows 3' apart. Allow plants to produce runners freely and fill in the row. Remove all flowers the first year. Harvest berries the second summer. Immediately after harvest, fertilize liberally with compost or aged manure and renovate the row. By hand or with a tiller, narrow the row to 12" wide. Thin plants to 4–5" apart within the row. By this method a bed can last about 5 years. Then plow it under and start again.

Everbearing or **Day-Neutral Strawberries** flower regardless of day length as long as temperatures are between 35 and 85°, and produce fruit from June to October. They are also uncommonly productive—about 1 lb of fruit per plant the first year, and slightly less the second year. Productivity peaks in August the first year. The second year, berry size decreases in the hottest weather and increases in cooler weather.

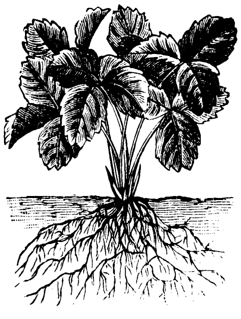
They are heavy feeders and benefit from 3–4" of manure worked 4–6" into the soil prior to planting. Plant 6–12" apart. Mulch with black plastic or thick straw immediately after planting. Remove flowers for the first 6 weeks, and remove all runners the first season. Mulch in late fall. Sidedress with manure monthly during the second season beginning in May. Till under after the second year and begin again.



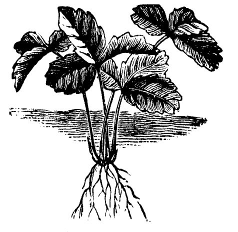
STRAWBERRY
PLANTED TOO SHALLOW



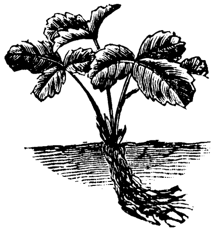
BUNCH OF STRAWBERRY PLANTS.



RIGHT
WAY OF PLANTING



STRAWBERRY
PLANTED TOO DEEP.

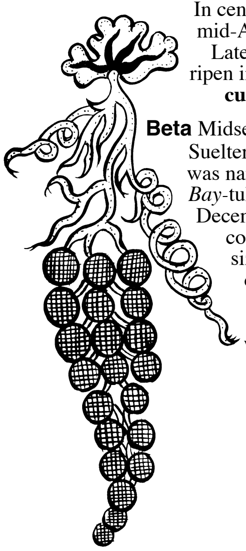


WRONG
WAY OF PLANTING.

Grapes *Vitis* spp. Grapes are easy to grow and can bear plentifully even in northern New England. They begin fruiting in the second or third year after planting. They are rugged and cold hardy. Our vines bear consistently every year. Although many people prefer seedless types for table use, seeded varieties can be quite enjoyable right off the vine if you don't mind "grape nuts." Grape seeds contain an antioxidant that is twice as powerful as Vitamin C.

The popularity of drinking wine is not new. The Chinese were fermenting it from hawthorn berries nearly 12,000 years ago. The first wine from grapes was likely made in Turkey or Iran 7,000 years ago. Traces of red wine were found in the tomb of the Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamen. Resveratrol is the polyphenol at the center of the current red wine hoopla. It appears to have anti-carcinogenic and anti-inflammatory properties as well as anti-microbial agents that work to prevent heart disease. Red wine is good for you!

Most grape varieties are bred from a combination of different species, *V. labrusca* and *V. vinifera* being the most important. *Labrusca* is native to the eastern U.S., has a wild tart musky (foxy) flavor, and is hardy and disease resistant. Concord is the best-known of the *labruscas*. *Vinifera*, native to Europe, is extremely high quality, and is the most important wine grape in the world, but is not cold hardy and is prone to disease. Riesling and chardonnay are the two hardiest pure *vinifera* grapes.



In central Maine, "very early" grapes begin ripening in mid-August, while "midseason" ripen mid-September. Late-season Concord, a standard elsewhere, does not ripen in many northern areas. **Do not require a second cultivar for pollination.** (1-2 yr well-rooted vines)

Beta Midseason. *V. riparia* x Concord. Originated by Louis Suelter (pronounced *Sool*-ter) in Minnesota, 1881. Beta was named after his wife and is pronounced *Bett*-uh not *Bay*-tuh. Old standby, excellent for juice, jelly and jam. Decent eating off the vine when completely ripe. Most concord-like of all our northern varieties. Medium-sized black berries in moderately compact to loose clusters. Early to bloom, early to ripen. Vigorous healthy productive vines will cover an arbor in short order. Long even canes are ideal for basket weaving. Extremely hardy. Z3.

378A Beta Grape, $15.00

> Crabgrass can grow on bowling balls in airless rooms, and there is no known way to kill it that does not involve nuclear weapons.
> –Dave Barry

Bluebell Mid. MN 158 (Beta x unknown) Developed by JM Dorsey, U Minn, 1944. Our most popular seeded grape; it does everything well. Extremely hardy, to –30°, *labrusca* type ripens 2–3 weeks earlier than Concord. While it ripens beautifully from central Maine south, it may not have time to ripen in some northernmost locales. Delicious sweet flavor makes them excellent for fresh eating, jelly and juice. Clusters of medium-sized dark berries with a heavy blue bloom. Strong, productive, vigorous—but not rampant—vine. A joy to grow. Immune to most or all fungal diseases. Z3. **ME Grown.**

379A Bluebell Grape, $15.00

Edelweiss Mid. MN78 (Beta x Witt) x Ontario. Elmer Swenson intro, U Minn, 1980. Considered one of Swenson's favorite grapes. Sweet green slipskin with a white bloom. Good for fresh eating and also makes a nice fruity wine. Large conical loosely formed clusters of medium-size tender juicy berries. Slightly foxy. High sugar content. Harvest when mature—if you leave them on the vine too long, the flavor strengthens and becomes musky. Vigorous and productive. Disease resistant. Hardy to –30° or –35°. Z3.

380A Edelweiss Grape, $15.00

Grapes prefer soils with pH of 5.8–7.0. For the best grapes, provide moderate fertility, very well-drained soil and full sun. Every June we thoroughly weed the grapes under our arbor, then mulch very liberally with old hay. After that, we don't do a thing to them except harvest in late summer and prune in late fall. Space 8–12' apart in rows 8–12' apart.

Spread the roots out, planting the crown even with the soil surface. Do not prune roots. Pack soil well. Water and mulch well. After frost danger has passed, prune vines back to 3–5 strong buds. Continue to mulch annually with hay or straw. Every few years fertilize liberally with granite dust.

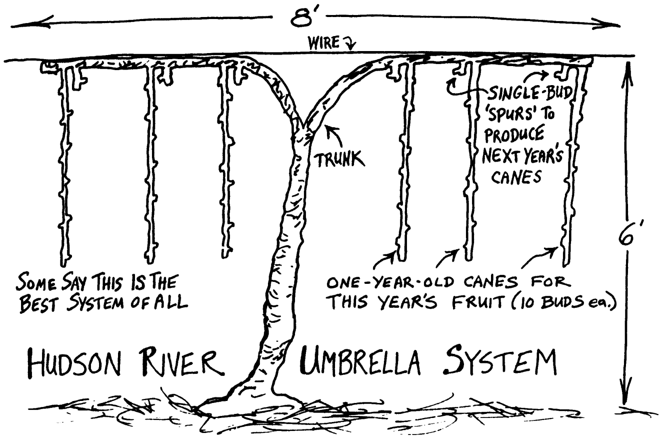
Grapes require annual pruning and a trellis or arbor, though in Italy they still sometimes grow them in maple trees. All systems for growing grapes involve removal of most growth in spring or late fall to encourage new canes, as fruit is produced on these canes. There are many systems for training grapes. Some are suited to laying down and covering tender varieties over winter. Any good book on grape growing will show you several options. We suggest the Hudson River Umbrella or the Four-arm Kniffin system. The University of Maine offers a series of videos demonstrating different grape-training techniques. Go to umaine.edu/highmoor/ and click on "videos."

People sometimes ask about wire. The current vineyard standard is high-tensile-strength class III galvanized steel wire. The gauge should be 11 to 12.5. The wire is generally sold by weight. 100 lbs of 11 gauge measures about 2600'. 100 lbs of 12.5 measures about 3800'.

Grapes rated for Zone 5 can be grown in Zones 3 and 4. To prevent winter injury, remove the vine from the trellis in fall, lay it on the ground, and bury with just enough soil to cover. To do this, plant your new grapevine at a 45° angle. Train new shoots horizontally for at least one foot. Then, curve shoots upward to form a J shape. This creates a flexible hinge, allowing you to lay the vine down at the end of the season.

Frontenac Mid-Late. MN 1047 (*V.r.* RIP 89 x Landot 4511) U Minn, 1996. A highly praised cold-hardy red-wine grape, also excellent for fresh eating. Recommended for dry full-bodied Merlot- or Bordeaux-style table wines, rosés and ports. Very large loose clusters of small berries. Intense juice color, low tannins, high sugar and high acid content. In *Notes from the North*, John Marshall adds, “Though the sugar may rise to impressive levels early in September, the grapes are not nearly ripe. Ignore the sugar levels and wait until September 20. The acid will drop and the wonderful black-cherry flavors that will make this grape famous will multiply.” Vigorous productive disease-resistant vines. Z4/5. **ME Grown.**

381A Frontenac Grape, $15.00


8'
WIRE
TRUNK
SINGLE-BUD 'SPURS' TO PRODUCE NEXT YEAR'S CANES
6'
SOME SAY THIS IS THE BEST SYSTEM OF ALL
ONE-YEAR-OLD CANES FOR THIS YEAR'S FRUIT (10 BUDS ea.)
HUDSON RIVER UMBRELLA SYSTEM

Marquette Mid-Late. MN 1211 (MN 1094 x Rivat 262) U Minn, 2006. This grape has northern winemakers buzzing with excitement. The best variety this side of the Atlantic for a pinot-noir–style red wine. One parent, MN 1094, has both *V. riparia* and *V. vinifera* in its background. The other, Rivat 262, is a French hybrid with pinot noir as one of its parents. Not only is Marquette heavy with *vinifera*, the vines are also extremely hardy. And there’s more: sugar levels are high—in the range of 26.1 Brix—and the acid levels are lower than Frontenac. Substantial tannins add complexity. Small-medium bluish-black berries in small to medium-sized clusters. Ripens a few days before Frontenac. Z3. **ME Grown.**

383A Marquette Grape, $15.00

Reliance Seedless Very Early. Arkansas 1163 (Ontario x Suffolk Red) Arkansas Stn, 1982. Good for fresh eating or juice. Large loose clusters of tender melting sweet pinkish-red fruit with a strawberry-like flavor. Stores well in a root cellar for 1–2 months. Seems hardy although it has shown significant dieback in our Zone 4 trials. You may need to lay vines down for the winter in colder areas (see sidebar). While the literature cautions about Reliance’s disease susceptibility, our vines have performed well and remained free of disease. Z4/5.

384A Reliance Seedless Grape, $15.00

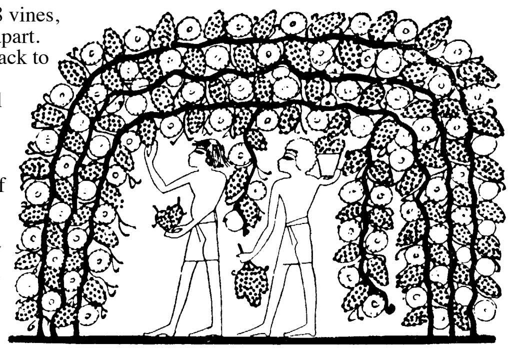
St. Theresa Seedless Late. ES 6-4-47 (Kandiyohi x ES 24-52) Swenson intro. Also called **Montreal Blues**, **Ontario Blues** or **Flandreau**. May be one of Swenson’s older hybrids, not commonly found in the nursery trade but cultivated by our Quebecois neighbors. Firm juicy tasty all-purpose blue grape good for fresh eating, jelly, juice or wine. Medium-sized grapes in large clusters. Often listed as seedless though it actually has small soft seeds that are easy to chew and digest. Hardy to around –30°. Z4.

385A St Theresa Seedless Grape, $15.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

PRUNE GRAPE VINES
IN NOVEMBER

Growing Grapes on an Arbor



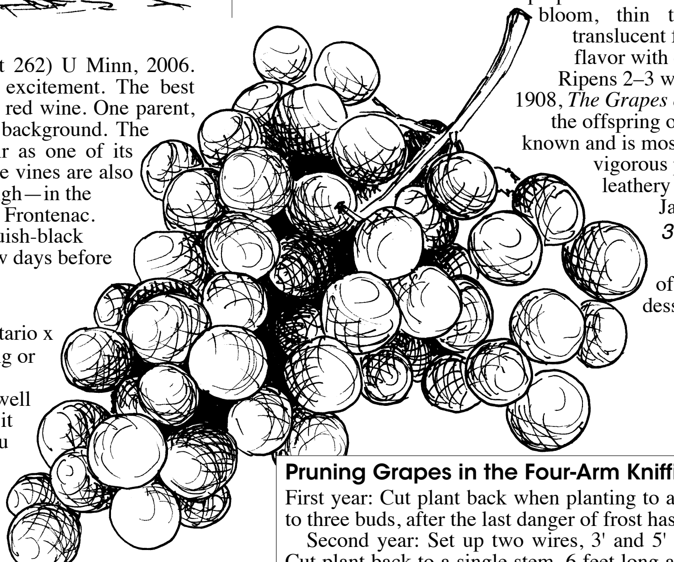
Train one or more vines onto an arbor or gazebo; we have 8 vines, spaced about 10' apart. Prune each vine back to a single trunk. Encourage several permanent arms from each trunk. Every winter remove 70-90% of the the past summer’s growth. Next summer new fruiting canes will grow off the permanent arms.

Somerset Seedless Early. ES12-7-98 (ES5-3-64 x Petite Jewel) Swenson intro. Somerset is likely one of the hardiest seedless grapes available today. One of the last Swenson introductions before the renowned and beloved grape breeder passed away in December 2004. Medium-sized loose clusters with small sweet ruddy reddish-golden fruit. Crispy texture and great flavor. Easy to grow but not overly vigorous. Z4.

386A Somerset Seedless Grape, $15.00

Worden Mid. *V. labrusca*. Concord seedling. Minetto, NY, 1863. Heirloom variety. Large long broad tapering clusters of medium-sized round dark purplish blue-black berries with a heavy bloom, thin tender skin and greenish translucent flesh. Juicy sweet mildly foxy flavor with excellent fresh-eating quality. Ripens 2–3 weeks earlier than its parent. In 1908, *The Grapes of New York* recorded, “Of all the offspring of Concord, this variety is best known and is most meritorious.” Healthy hardy vigorous productive vines. Thick fuzzy leathery leaves are not so appealing to Japanese beetles. Z4. **ME Grown.**

387A Worden Grape,$15.00



Grape Collection Our pick of 4 varieties, a combo of hardy dessert and wine grapes.

390A Grape Collection, bundle of 4, $50.00

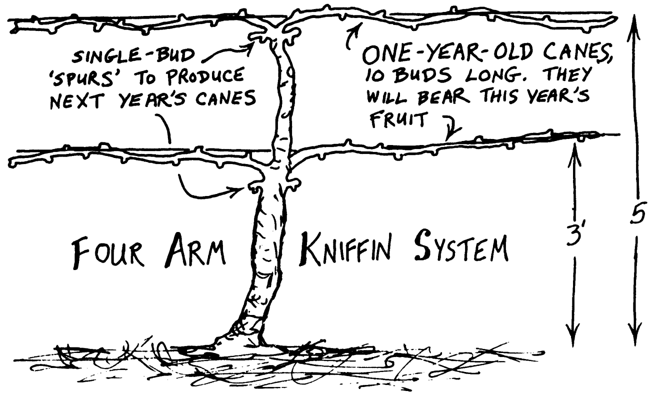
Pruning Grapes in the Four-Arm Kniffin System

First year: Cut plant back when planting to a single stem, 6" long with two to three buds, after the last danger of frost has passed.

Second year: Set up two wires, 3' and 5' high, stretched between posts. Cut plant back to a single stem, 6 feet long and tie it to the top wire. Leave 4–6 buds near each wire and remove others.

Third year: Select 8 canes, 4 for each wire, and remove the rest. Tie two canes to each wire, in each direction. Cut these 4 canes back to 10 buds each. Cut the remaining 4 canes back to 1–2 buds each.

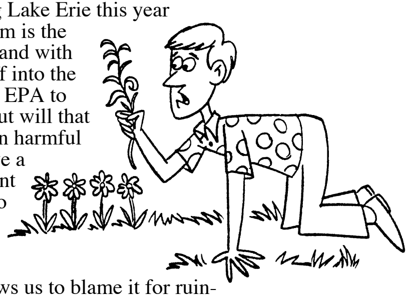
Later years: In the spring, remove last year’s fruiting canes. Select eight new canes. Cut 4 of them to 10 buds each, and tie them to your wires. Cut the remaining 4 back to 2 buds each. These will produce next year’s fruiting canes. Remove all other canes. The number of buds left on the fruiting canes may be adjusted to encourage more fruit (leave more buds) or larger size (leave fewer buds).


SINGLE-BUD 'SPURS' TO PRODUCE NEXT YEAR'S CANES
ONE-YEAR-OLD CANES, 10 BUDS LONG. THEY WILL BEAR THIS YEAR'S FRUIT
FOUR ARM KNIFFIN SYSTEM
3'
5'

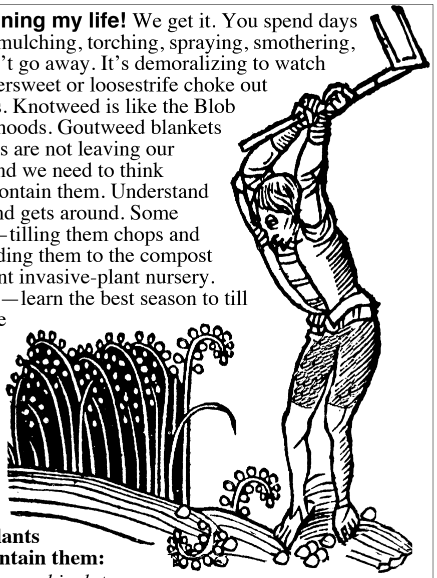
more about WEEDS

On page two and throughout this year's catalog we've been writing about weeds. What about those plants we call invasives? Our agricultural land, our cities, our waterways and even our forests are increasingly being invaded and overrun by bittersweet, garlic mustard, Japanese knotweed, milfoil and many other aggressive plants. Take a break from focusing frustration on these troublesome species and consider how and why they thrive in our landscape. Every time we disturb the environment, there are consequences. Invasive plants grow in polluted areas where our native plants no longer grow. They force their way through sidewalk cracks, bringing life into our cities. Recent studies have shown that some of these plants, such as mugwort and lamb's quarters, even take heavy metals out of the soil. At a time when Lyme disease is on the rise, so is knotweed—its roots contain resveratol, a component found medicinally effective in treating the disease. These plants are doing a remarkable job of adapting to the world we have created.

The algae bloom inundating Lake Erie this year is not the problem. The problem is the way we treat our agricultural land with synthetic fertilizers that run off into the water. Congress instructed the EPA to find a solution for the algae, but will that result in meaningful changes in harmful agricultural practices? We have a national habit of saying, "I want to lose weight but I still plan to eat 20 ice cream cones and cakes and cookies every day."



"Calling a plant invasive allows us to blame it for ruining the environment when really it is humans who are actually to blame," writes Peter Del Tredici in his 2010 *Wild Urban Plants of the Northeast*. Although primarily focused on the urban environment, Del Tredici gives a relevent, accessable, thought-provoking and non-judgemental look at our plant villians. He tells it like it is: "Weeds are the symptoms of environmental degradation, not its cause, and as such they are poised to become increasingly abundant within our lifetimes." The book includes descriptions and mug shots of over 200 species. If weeds interest you, read this book.



But these plants are ruining my life! We get it. You spend days pulling, hacking, scything, mulching, torching, spraying, smothering, cursing—and still they won't go away. It's demoralizing to watch really tough weeds like bittersweet or loosestrife choke out large stands of native plants. Knotweed is like the Blob consuming whole neighborhoods. Goutweed blankets the forest floor. These plants are not leaving our ecosystems anytime soon and we need to think intelligently about how to contain them. Understand how the plant reproduces and gets around. Some weeds spread by rhizomes—tilling them chops and multiplies the roots, and adding them to the compost pile can create an inadvertent invasive-plant nursery. Other plants spread by seed—learn the best season to till them out of existence before they make seedlings. Remember that unwanted plants are often introduced by imported soil or hay. We all need to check our gardening practices and also learn to identify the most problematic weeds.

A few common invasive plants and ideas about how to contain them:

Asiatic Bittersweet *Celastrus orbiculatus*
Introduced. Climbs and strangles shrubs and trees by girdling the stems. Reproduces by seed. Sever vines at ground level.

Autumn Olive *Eleagnus umbellata* Introduced and currently sold at nurseries across the U.S. Outcompetes native plants. Very invasive. Spreads by seeds and roots. Pull up seedlings before they fruit.

Bindweed *Convolvulus arvensis* also *Calystegia sepium* Introduced. Reproduces by seeds and rhizomes. We've had luck setting it back by pulling up *intact* rhizomes all season long. If the brittle rhizome breaks and parts remain in the ground, you'll have new plants.

Galinsoga *Galinsoga ciliata* Introduced. Reproduces by seeds. Likes fertile soil. Keep weeding it throughout the growing season or till before it flowers.

Goutweed *Aegopodium podagraria* Also known as Bishop's Weed. Introduced. Spreads mainly by rhizomes. Mow repeatedly. Never till and never add it to a compost pile. Keep plant material away from the woods.

Japanese Knotweed *Polygonum cuspidatum* Introduced. Grows pretty much everywhere. Spreads by seeds and rhizomes. You can pour asphalt over them and they will continue to grow. Some folks are tackling small plots by cutting stalks back, laying tarps in very early spring, stomping on the tarps, then digging up rhizomes and repeating over and over again.

Multiflora Rose *Rosa multiflora* Introduced and taking over whole landscapes. Spreads by seeds and runners, also by birds and mammals. Mow and cut 3–6 times per season for 3–5 years to help slow it down.

Poison Ivy *Toxicodendron radicans* Native. Reproduces by seed, root and stems; seeds dispersed by birds. Thrives on the edge of the woods, in wetlands, on disturbed sites. Repeated mowing helps control it, and can eradicate small patches. Get goats and hope they will eat it?

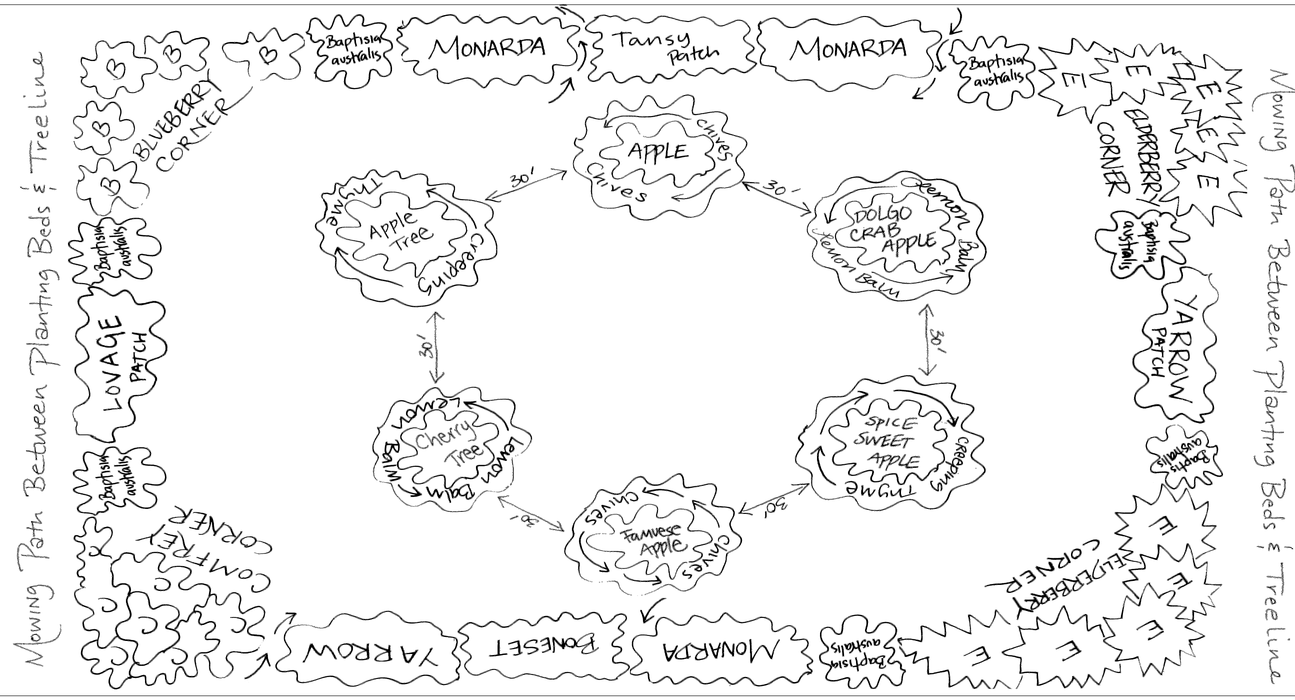
Purple Loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria* Introduced. Likes wet marshy roadsides where it displaces plants like our native cattail. Reproduces by seeds and roots. Mowed stems can form new roots. Remove seed heads and burn. Remove whole root systems.

Tatarian Honeysuckle *Lonicera tatarica* Introduced. Birds eat the berries and spread the seeds. Grows everywhere. Cut it down before it goes to seed.

Recommended reading about weeds:

Here are a few of our favorite publications about weeds:

- *Weeds: In Defense of Nature's Most Unloved Plants*
  by Richard Mabey
- *Forager's Harvest: A Guide to Identifying, Harvesting and Preparing Edible Wild Plants*
  by Samuel Thayer
- *Weeds, Friend or Foe? An Illustrated Guide to Identifying Taming & Using Weeds*
  by Sally Roth
- *Weeds of the Northeast*
  by Richard H. Uva, Joseph C. Neal and Joseph M. DiTomaso
- *Weeds and What They Tell Us* (3rd edition)
  by Ehrenfried E. Pfeiffer
- *Weeds of North America*
  by Richard Dickinson and France Royer
- *A Field Guide to Edible Wild Plants*
  by Lee Allen Peterson
- *Wild Urban Plants of the Northeast: a field guide*
  by Peter Del Tredici
- "From Wanted to Weeds: A Natural History of Some of New England's Introduced Plants"
  by Jessamy R. Luthin, *Maine History*, Vol. 49, Summer 2015
- "Your Most Expensive Crop" by Tom Roberts. Find this helpful article at snakeroot.net/farm/YourMostExpensiveCrop.shtml



Orchard Companions for Neatniks

Most of us know someone with a passion for bushhogs, lawn mowers and weed whackers. You know, the gearhead gardeners who just can't resist gas-powered grooming methods. The idea of letting a patch of comfrey, or even worse, a stand of tansy, grow in the middle of the orchard is unfathomable to the neatniks of the gardening world.

As a typical "wild gardener" I prefer to plant something someplace and if I don't like the results, I simply dig it up and set it somewhere else. Gearheads are emotionally challenged by such planting methods and in their efforts to keep the landscape neat and tidy, often mistake intentional plantings for weeds run amok. The moment I hear the high-pitched buzz of the weed whacker I drop what I'm doing and race towards the sound to make sure that my newly planted bee balm isn't a casualty in the war against weeds. If this sounds at all familiar, you might be thinking that planting orchard companions is a little too challenging for you and your whack-happy family and friends. Au contraire! You can create a beautiful dynamic ecosystem for the orchard using plants meant to be cut down regularly. Even the most addicted zero-turn mower driver will be satisfied.

Here are a few planting suggestions that allow for the best of both worlds.

At the base trees: Plant low-growing spreading groundcovers. Choose varieties tough enough to fend off impending grasses and withstand the heavy foot traffic required to care for and harvest from your trees. For young trees, choose sun-loving plants like arnica, creeping thyme, chives and lemon balm. For beneath mature tree canopies, choose shade-tolerant plants like wild geranium, lady's mantle and wood betony. All these plants will spread fairly quickly if you let them go to seed the first few growing seasons—eventually they'll form an easy-to-mow ring around the tree.

On the edge or in the center of the orchard: Prepare soil beds along the edge of your orchard or large circular beds between rows of trees. The goal is for these plants to multiply, offering their rich nectar to the pollinators and giving nutrients back to the soil, so plant each variety with plenty of room for it to sprawl.

When to cut the living mulches? Cut the plants down to the ground immediately after the flowers look their best. Spread the plant material around trees, shrubs and in garden paths to mulch and feed the soil. Cutting plants right after the first bloom often allows time for a repeat bloom.

A glimpse at my 2015 Orchard Companion field notes:

April 26: Used mattock to cultivate 3 planting beds along the treeline. Left a 5' mowing path on either side of beds. Seeded Dutch white clover between beds. Planted tansy in the middle bed and Monarda in the other two beds.

May 10: Prepped 3 more soil beds along the orchard edge. Seeded Dutch white clover between beds. Planted boneset, Monarda and yarrow.

May 12: Prepped soil under 3 young fruit trees. Worked up a 10' circle around the base of each tree. Planted creeping thyme, chives and lemon balm 2' away from the base of each tree.

June 10: Comfrey blossoms at peak bloom. Tons of bees! Wait to cut.

June 14: Comfrey flowers nearly spent. Cut foliage & used to mulch around the young lemon balms under cherry tree.

July 15: Comfrey 4' tall again! Cut & used as mulch.

July 20: Yarrow at peak bloom. Bees and bugs everywhere! Wait to cut.

July 17: Lovage at peak bloom. Time to make lovage syrup!

July 25: Monarda and yarrow flowers nearly done. Cut & used as mulch around the young creeping thyme under apple trees.

July 26: Boneset and tansy flowers at their peak. Buzzing with life—starting to see syrphid flies! Let it stand to attract more beneficial insects.

Orchard Companion Collection

Companion plants encourage natural processes that benefit the overall health and vitality of fruit trees. This means less work lugging around sprayers, buying fertilizer, spreading compost and worrying about pollination.

Beneficial Insect Attractors contain nectar sought by predatory insects like brachonid wasps, syrphid fly and lacewings that feed on fruit tree pests.

Mineral Accumulators have long taproots that are thought to bring up minerals from deep subsoil. Cut foliage and mulch around trees throughout the season to create nutrient-rich soil.

Living Mulches produce large quantities of organic matter that can be cut back to decompose around tree bases, enriching the soil.

Native Pollinator Plants are native to North America and attract native pollinators.

Nitrogen-Fixers transfer nitrogen from the air to the soil where it can be absorbed by tree roots.

Pest Confusers have bitter aromas that confuse insect pests and deter them from eating fruit.

Our collection includes one each of the following 10 plants. Each plant is individually packaged. In case any is unavailable, we will substitute a plant of similar benefit to the orchard. All except Baptisia are **ME Grown**.

***Achillea millefolium* Yarrow** Living mulch. Rich in copper, nitrogen and phosphorus. Aromatic pest confuser with bitter aroma. Excellent addition to compost piles. See pg. 68 for full description.

***Allium schoenoprasum* Wild Chives** Aromatic pest confuser. Spreading groundcover has a layman's reputation for warding off scab on fruit trees. Good to eat from early spring to heavy frost. Chives inhibit the growth of legumes, so plant it away from the Baptisia.

***Baptisia australis* Blue False Indigo** Nitrogen-fixing legume. Native pollinator plant. See pg. 61 for full description.

***Eupatorium perfoliatum* Boneset** Beneficial insect attractor. Native pollinator plant. Predatory pest habitat.

***Levisticum officinale* Lovage** Beneficial insect attractor.

***Melissa officinalis* Lemon Balm** Beneficial insect attractor. Living mulch. Spreading groundcover. Plant at base of trees.

***Monarda fistulosa* Wild Bergamot** or **Bee Balm** Living mulch. Native pollinator plant.

***Symphytum* x *uplandicum* 'Bocking 14' Russian Comfrey** Mineral accumulator and living mulch. Rich in nitrogen, potassium and calcium when cut to the ground for mulch. Adds to soil fertility; makes a mineral-rich foliar spray. Predatory pest habitat. Nearly impossible to eradicate: *plant it where you want it forever*.

***Tanecetum vulgare* Tansy** Aromatic pest confuser. Mineral accumulator. See pg. 67 for full description. *We cannot ship Tansy to MT, SD, WA or WI. For orders from those states we will substitute with a plant of equal benefit to the orchard.*

***Thymus serphyllum* Creeping Thyme** Beneficial insect attractor provides nectar for adult syrphid flies whose larvae eat huge quantities of aphids. Predatory pest habitat. Spreading groundcover. Plant at base of trees.

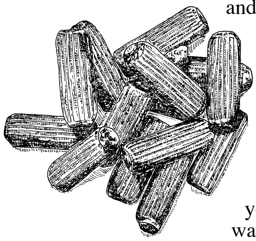
Supplies may be limited.
Please order early.

***L746A**: 1 collection for $50.00*

Fungi Make Their Fedco Debut!

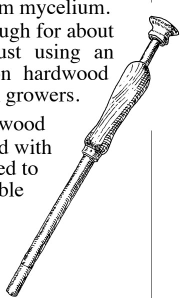
Many of us are crazy about mushrooms. We love hunting for them in the damp forests during spring and fall, cooking them, tincturing them or just admiring their mysterious beauty. People have cultivated mushrooms for thousands of years. Around a century ago, American seed catalogs offered mushroom spawn bricks for 30¢ each, right there between the melons and the mustard.

For the first time, we're excited to collaborate with North Spore Mushrooms to offer the following selections for you to get started on your own fungus garden. These products are all Maine-grown without pesticides and on natural substrates. You can purchase varieties as plug spawn or sawdust spawn. All can be refrigerated until you are ready to start growing. Detailed instructions will be sent with your order and you can find more info about each item on our website.



Plug Spawn are small wooden dowels colonized by mushroom mycelium. 50 plugs will inoculate a single 4' long, 4" diameter log. Drill 5/16" holes into your log, hammer in the plugs and seal the holes with wax. Plugs are an excellent choice for beginners. Plugs come in batches of 100.

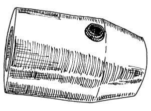
Sawdust Spawn is hardwood sawdust colonized by mushroom mycelium. Each bag contains 5.5 lbs of inoculated hardwood sawdust, enough for about 25 logs. Drill 12mm holes in your logs, pack the sawdust using an inoculation tool and seal with wax. Can also be grown on hardwood sawdust in your garden paths. Good for commercial mushroom growers.



What You'll Need The varieties we list will fruit best on hardwood logs or sawdust. Recommended log species lists will be included with instructions. Depending on the product you choose, you will need to provide your own hammer and drill. Here are a few tools available to help you get a head start:

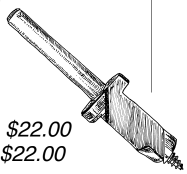
Inoculation Tool A simple hand tool for rapid inoculation of hardwood logs with sawdust spawn. (Not needed for plug spawn.) Use with 12mm drill bit holes for best results.

L400A Inoculation Tool, $40.00



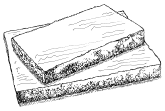
Angle Grinder Adapter Used to attach a drill bit to an angle grinder to increase speed on large projects. Fits 5/8" spindle and takes both 12mm and 8.5mm drill bits.

L401A Angle Grinder Adapter, $40.00



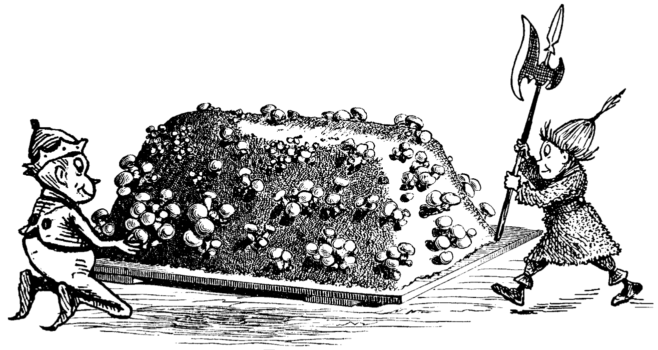
Drill Bits For large projects, we recommend an angle grinder adapter with an 8.5mm bit for plug spawn or a 12mm bit for sawdust.

L402A 5/16" low speed drill bit, $10.00
L403A 8.5 mm high speed drill bit with stop collar, $22.00
L404A 12 mm high speed drill bit with stop collar, $22.00



Sealing Wax A clear food-grade cheese wax ideal for sealing holes in inoculated logs. One pound of wax is enough to seal about 10 logs.

L405A Sealing Wax 1 lb., $8.00



MUSHROOM SPAWN.

Mushrooms For each variety, we offer the following options:

Plug Spawn, bundle of 100, $13.50
Sawdust Spawn, 5.5 lb bag, $20.00

Chicken of the Woods *Laetiporus sulphureus* Large bright orange fruit bodies have a texture reminiscent of chicken. Great in soups and stir-fries. Fruits all season from late spring into late fall. Prefers large-diameter oak logs.

L406A Chicken of the Woods Plug Spawn, $13.50
407A Chicken of the Woods Sawdust Spawn, $20.00

Golden Oyster *Pleurotus citrinopileatus* Tropical oyster strain that thrives in warm weather. Produces beautiful clusters with yellow caps that are a favorite at farmers markets. Grows well on many different hardwood species including oak, maple and poplar.

L408A Golden Oyster Plug Spawn, $13.50
409A Golden Oyster Sawdust Spawn, $20.00

Grey Oyster *Pleurotus ostreatus* Very popular fleshy firm edible grey-white oyster-shaped caps often found growing on old dying maple trees. Our most productive oyster strain. Reliable and cold tolerant, fruits prolifically in early spring or late fall. Grows well on many different hardwood species including oak, maple and poplar.

L410A Grey Oyster Plug Spawn, $13.50
411A Grey Oyster Sawdust Spawn, $20.00

Lion's Mane *Hericium erinaceus* Pure white cluster of icicle-like teeth, often found on beech and birch in the wild. When cooked, they have a consistency similar to crab meat. Naturally fruits during cooler months. Due to a slower colonization rate, a higher inoculation rate should be used. Can be grown on many different hardwood species, large- or small-diameter logs.

L412A Lion's Mane Plug Spawn, $13.50
413A Lion's Mane Sawdust Spawn, $20.00

Reishi *Ganoderma lucidum* Beautiful waxy reddish-brown shelf-like fruit bodies are a highly prized immune-boosting medicinal used to treat a long list of ailments. Used for teas and tinctures. Not for culinary use. Fruits midsummer. Prefers oak logs though other hardwood species can be used.

L414A Reishi Plug Spawn, $13.50
415A Reishi Sawdust Spawn, $20.00

Shiitake *Lentinula edodes* Edible brown umbrella-shaped spongy caps, very nutritious and medicinal. Good for drying and reconstituting in winter soups. Meaty texture when cooked. Grows best on oak and maple. Three strains available:

Wide Range Shiitake Fruits throughout the growing season and responds well to commercial forced-fruiting production methods.

L416A Wide Range Shiitake Plug Spawn, $13.50
417A Wide Range Shiitake Sawdust Spawn, $20.00

Warm Weather Shiitake Fruits best in warmer climates or during warm summer months in temperate climates.

L418A Warm Weather Shiitake Plug Spawn, $13.50
419A Warm Weather Shiitake Sawdust Spawn, $20.00

Cold Weather Shiitake Fruits best in early spring or late fall and can be stimulated to fruit by exposing to cold temps.

L420A Cold Weather Shiitake Plug Spawn, $13.50
421A Cold Weather Shiitake Sawdust Spawn, $20.00

Wine Cap *Stropharia rugosoannulata* Vigorous red-capped fruiting bodies thrive on woody debris and work well in non-sterile environments such as outdoor sawdust beds, wood chips and straw. Prefers hardwood chips but will grow on a mix of soft and hard. Once established, they will produce for several years and can be easily transplanted to fresh woody debris beds.

L422A Wine Cap Plug Spawn, $13.50
423A Wine Cap Sawdust Spawn, $20.00

Fedco Trees 2016

PO Box 520 Waterville ME 04903

FEDCO•TREES

from mailing label CC- ______________________________

Ordered by:

Farm or Group Name ______________________________

Name ______________________________

US Mail ______________________________

Town ____________________ St _____ Zip ________

Deliver to:

UPS (include your road name) ______________________________

Town ____________________ St _____ Zip ________

contact: ____________________ email ______________________________

Order online
fedcoseeds.com
Check product availability.
Download catalogs and
additional order sheets.

Delivery Options ✓ **choose one:**

- ☐ **Ship** in early to mid April.
- ☐ **Pickup** at Tree Sale in Clinton. Pay no shipping.
- ☐ **Ship** around May 4. (Add $25 fee to shipping charges.)

Substitutions (see p. 3)	Yes	No
I will accept a similar variety.	☐	☐
I will accept similar rootstock.	☐	☐

Volume Discounts
(only orders received by 1/15/16)

Subtotal over $200	take 10%
over $400	take 15%
over $1000	take 20%

* Fedco members qualify for a 1% discount on all purchases. See page 7 for more information.

Shipping Charges: (we ship by UPS or Priority Mail, our choice)

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Continental United States	$20.00	over $134.00, pay 15% of adjusted total

Orders to **Alaska** go Priority Mail; be sure we have a *Postal Address*

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Priority Mail	$25.00	over $125.00, pay 20% of adjusted total

Small & Light: All your stock numbers begin with **L**.

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Small & Light	$10.00	over $67.00, pay 15% of adjusted total

Subtotal from reverse	
Volume Discount	–
* **1% Member Discount**, from Subtotal	–
Adjusted Total	=
ME residents & pickups add 5.5% **Tax**	+
Shipping	+
Total	=
Donate to MeHO Maine Heritage Orchard, see pg 19	+
Grand Total	=

Make checks payable to **Fedco**

Final order deadline March 4, 2016

- **See complete ordering information on page 3.**
- For early delivery of rootstock or for scionwood, order online or use the other form (p. 37) in this catalog.
- If you require Priority Mail delivery, minimum shipping charge is $25 or 20% for orders with an adjusted total over $125.
- We will add a $10 handling fee each time you ask us to make adjustments after we have received your order.
- We ship between April 1 and April 15; we will add a $15 handling fee if you specify a particular shipping date within this period. If you choose our late shipment around May 4, the additional charge is $25.
- Consider donating your refund to MeHO (the Maine Heritage Orchard) at MOFGA (the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association.)

Help support
the Maine Heritage Orchard:

- ☐ Donate all my refund to MeHO
- ☐ up to $5.00
- ☐ up to $2.00

We accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card

Exp. Date

Fedco Trees 2016: Trees, Shrubs & Plants

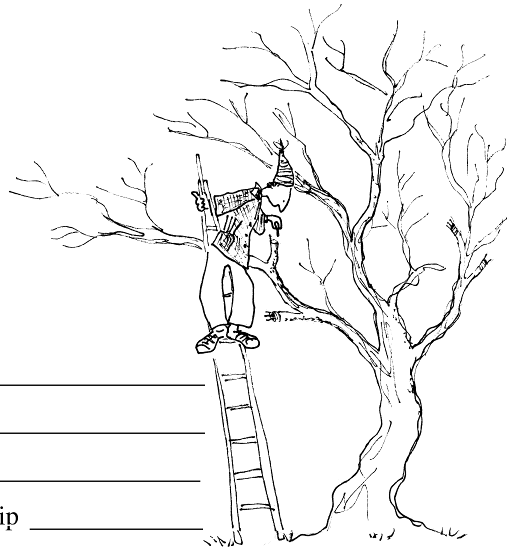
	Item #	Number of pkgs.	Number of plants	Description	Price per package	Total Price
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						
26						
27						
28						
					Subtotal (carry to other side)	

If you are ordering more than 28 items, you may copy this page or our format and submit as many pages as you need.

If you order *only* item numbers beginning with L, you qualify for our reduced shipping rate. See other side for details.

Suggestions:

Fedco Trees 2016
Scionwood
PO Box 520 Waterville ME 04903



from mailing label CC ____________

Deliver to:

Farm or Group Name ____________

Name ____________

US Mail ____________

Town ____________ St ______ Zip ______

Ordering rootstock? Give us a UPS address if different: Street ____________

Town ____________ St ______ Zip ______

phone ____________ email ____________

Scionwood Total (from reverse)	+
Rootstock Total (from reverse)	+
Subtotal	=
1% Member discount	-
Adjusted Total	=
Maine residents **only** add 5.5% **Tax**	+
⟶	+
Grand Total	=

Make checks payable to **Fedco**

Deadline Feb. 19, 2016, for ordering scionwood and rootstock for shipment around March 17, 2016.

Shipping Charges: (we ship by UPS or Priority Mail, our choice)

Small & Light: You are ordering only scionwood.

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Small & Light	$10.00	over $67.00, pay 15% of adjusted

If you ordered rootstock and you live in the Continental U.S.

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
	$20.00	over $134.00, pay 15% of adjusted total

Orders to **Alaska** go Priority Mail; be sure we have a *Postal Address*

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Priority Mail	$25.00	over $125.00, pay 20% of adjusted total

Scionwood, or scions, are twigs for grafting. They are $5 each and are approximately 8" long.

For larger quantities consider buying by the foot: 10-foot minimum per variety, $4.50 per foot.

Scionwood quantities are limited, order early. We try to provide wood that is close to 1/4" in diameter. When only smaller diameter wood is available, we send it out. If you do not want smaller diameter wood, please note that on your order and we'll refund your payment.

- **Upon receiving your order**, please inspect your scionwood immediately. Any shipping errors, unlabeled scionwood, or scion abnormalities should be reported to Fedco Trees ASAP.
- **Store scionwood** in a dark location with temperatures between 32 and 38° in triple plastic bags. Your scionwood should remain viable well into May.
- **For more information about varieties**, please check our website: fedcoseeds.com/trees.
- **For grafting supplies and literature**, please refer to the Organic Growers Supply section of the Fedco Seeds catalog.
- **If you'd like to learn more about grafting**, please join us on March 20, 2016, at The Scionwood Exchange at MOFGA's Common Ground, or check our website in March for a list of spring grafting classes in Maine.

Help support the Maine Heritage Orchard:

☐ Donate all my refund to MeHO

☐ up to $5.00

☐ up to $2.00

We accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐

Exp. Date ☐☐ ☐☐

Fedco Trees 2016: Scionwood

	How many	
Apples	sticks	feet
L-801 Ashmead's Kernel		
L-802 Bailey Sweet		
L-803 Baldwin		
L-804 Beauties Of Wellington		
L-805 Belle De Boskoop		
L-806 Ben Davis		
L-807 Black Oxford		
L-808 Blue Pearmain		
L-809 Calville Blanc d'Hiver		
L-810 Canadian Strawberry		
L-811 Centennial		
L-812 Chenango Strawberry		
L-813 Cherryfield (aka Collins)		
L-814 Chestnut		
L-815 Coles Quince		
L-816 Cortland		
L-817 Crimson Beauty		
L-818 Deane (aka Nine Ounce)		
L-819 Duchess of Oldenburg		
L-820 Dudley Winter		
L-821 Esopus Spitzenburg		
L-822 Fallawater		
L-823 Fall Jenneting		
L-824 Fameuse		
L-825 Fletcher Sweet		
L-826 Gano		
L-827 Garden Royal		
L-828 Golden Russet		
L-829 GoldRush		
L-830 Granite Beauty		
L-831 Gravenstein		
L-832 Gray Pearmain		
L-833 Grimes Golden		
L-834 Honeycrisp		
L-835 Hudson's Golden Gem		
L-836 Hurlbut		
L-837 Kavanagh		
L-838 Keepsake		
L-839 Kennebec Russet		
L-840 Kilham Hill		
L-841 King of Tompkins County		
L-842 Koidu Reinette		
L-843 Legace		
L-844 Liberty		
L-845 Lincolnville Russet		
L-846 Macoun		
L-847 Maiden Blush		
L-848 Mantet		
L-849 Marlboro		
L-850 McIntosh		
L-851 Milo Gibson		
L-852 Moses Wood		
L-853 Munson Sweet		
L-854 New Brunswicker		
L-855 New Hampshire 9		
L-856 Newt Grindle		
Column 1 Total		

	How many	
	sticks	feet
L-857 Newtown Pippin		
L-858 Nodhead		
L-859 Northern Spy		
L-860 Nutting Bumpus		
L-861 Opalescent		
L-862 Orange Sweet		
L-863 Pewaukee		
L-864 Pomme d'Or		
L-865 Pomme Grise		
L-866 Porter		
L-867 Pound Sweet		
L-868 Priscilla		
L-869 Red Astrichan		
L-870 Red Baron		
L-871 Red Blaze		
L-873 Red Gravenstein		
L-874 Red St. Lawrence		
L-875 Reinette Simirenko		
L-876 Ribston Pippin		
L-877 Rolfe		
L-878 Roxbury Russet		
L-879 Sand Hill		
L-880 Scott's Winter		
L-881 September Ruby		
L-882 Sidrunkollane Talioun		
L-883 Somerset of Maine		
L-884 Spice Sweet		
L-885 St. Lawrence		
L-886 Stark		
L-887 Starkey		
L-888 Summer Sweeting		
L-889 Sweet Red		
L-890 Sweet Sal		
L-891 Sweet Sixteen		
L-892 Tater House		
L-893 Tolman Sweet		
L-894 Trailman		
L-895 Twenty Ounce		
L-896 Wagener		
L-897 Wardwell Sweet		
L-898 Washington Sweet		
L-899 Westfield Seek-No-Further		
L-900 Williams Pride		
L-901 Windham Russet		
L-902 Wolf River		
Column 2 Total		

Scionwood sticks are around 8" long with a 1/4" caliper when possible. $5.00/stick.

For larger quantities, order by the foot (10' minimum) for $4.50/foot.

	How many	
	sticks	feet
L-903 Yellow Bellflower		
L-904 Yellow Jay		
L-905 Yellow Transparent		
L-906 Zabergau Reinette		
L-907 Zachary		
Apples for Cider		
L-908 Ashton Bitter		
L-909 Binet Rouge		
L-910 Bramtot		
L-911 Brown Snout		
L-912 Brown's Apple		
L-913 Chisel Jersey		
L-914 Dabinett		
L-915 Domaine		
L-916 Ellis Bitter		
L-917 Geneva Crab		
L-918 Harry Masters Jersey		
L-919 Kingston Black		
L-920 Major		
L-921 Medaille d'Or		
L-922 Michelin		
L-923 Nehou		
L-924 Porter's Perfection		
L-925 Redfield		
L-926 Somerset Red Streak		
L-927 Tremlett's Bitter		
L-928 Wickson		
L-929 Yarlington Mill		
Pears for Perry		
L-930 Blakeney Red		
L-931 Butt		
L-932 Gin		
L-933 Hendre Huffcap		
L-934 Yellow Huffcap		
Column 3 Total		
Total Number Ordered		
Sticks x $5.00		
Feet x $4.50		

Minimum
10 feet per variety

ROOTSTOCK—bundle of 10

Rootstock is approximately 1/4" caliper.
See page 20 for descriptions.

		Price	#	$Total
230-B	Malus antonovka	$29.00		
231-B	M. Budagovsky 118	$29.00		
232-B	M. M111	$29.00		
233-B	M. Geneva 11	$33.00		
234-B	M. Budagovsky 9	$29.00		
235-B	Prunus americana	$29.00		
236-B	P. avium	$29.00		
237-B	P. cerasifera	$29.00		
248-B	Pyrus OHxF97	$29.00		
	Bundles Ordered			

Trees, Shrubs, Roots and Vines

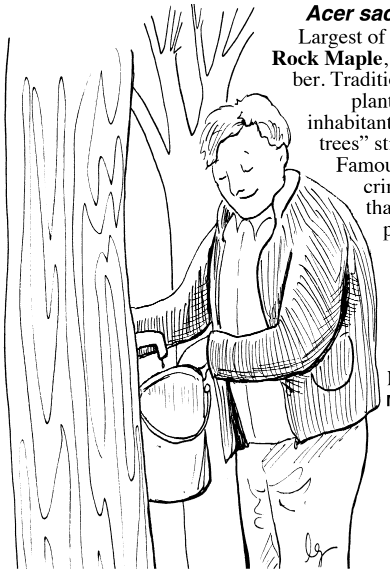
Trees, shrubs, roots and vines all intermingle, interact and cooperate with one another to make the landscape what it is—the ultimate polyculture—the model to which we aspire in our own yards. We offer the best of the best for you to create your own landscape. See our chart on pages 58–59 for information at a glance about the roles these plants can play.

In the past we've attempted to separate our offerings into categories and we were never quite satisfied. When does a small tree become a shrub? When does a large shrub become a tree? What about the roots that have vining tops? How do we categorize beautiful flowering trees that attract wildlife and produce fruit for the kitchen table? Where do we put the edible ornamentals? The ornamental edibles? Finding your favorite plant might seem difficult at first. But fret not: they are alphabetized by botanical (Latin) name. And you can find them all listed by common name as well as Latin in the **index inside the back cover**.

The listings in this section are well-rooted bare-root plants, unless otherwise noted.

***Abies balsamea* Balsam Fir** 45-75' Called *popakw*, the pitch tree, in Wabanaki. One of the most abundant of our native conifers. Twigs, inner bark, needles and sap are all medicinal. Small "blisters" contain a transparent aromatic resin that native peoples used as an inhalant for headaches and congestion and as a salve for cuts and arthritis. Needle tea is rich in vitamin C. The fragrant boughs are a favorite for wreaths; the needles used in scented pillows and potpourri. The best of all conifers for a Christmas tree! Narrow, conical, smooth-barked. Prefers well-drained moist acid soil. Avoid polluted areas. Semi-shade tolerant, slow-growing. Good hedge or specimen tree, songbird nesting area or rabbit thicket. Native Labrador to upper eastern U.S. Z3. (12-16")

424A Balsam Fir, bundle of 5, $19.00



***Acer saccharum* Sugar Maple** 50-100' Largest of our native maples, also known as **Rock Maple**, valued for shade, syrup and lumber. Traditionally a pair of sugar maples was planted in front of a farmhouse on the inhabitants' wedding day. Those "wedding trees" still grace many Maine front yards. Famous for its yellow, gold, scarlet and crimson fall foliage and its fresh sap that's boiled down to make real maple syrup. Huge upright spreading form with light grey bark. Shade tolerant, making it easy to interplant in existing woods. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. Cold hardy. Sensitive to salt and air pollution; not a good city tree. Native Quebec to Gulf Coast. Z3. **ME Grown**. (2-5')

425A Sugar Maple, $18.00

***Actinidia* Hardy Kiwi** Productive twining vine climbs 20' or more and produces delicious kumkwat-sized kiwi fruits in late summer, so delicious that you might not be able to stop eating them! Unlike supermarket kiwis, the skin is smooth and edible. The longer they ripen on the vine, the sweeter they become. Easy to grow in rich well-drained soils. Will begin producing in 5–9 years. Mature plants may produce up to 100 lbs of fruit. Once vines are established, adequate pruning (see directions in sidebar) will significantly increase yields. No significant pest or disease problems. **Both male and female plants required for fruit.** One male will usually pollinate at least three females of the same species. The females bear the fruit. We offer two species. *Arguta* ripens around mid-September, has large fruit and is more vigorous than *kolomikta*. (*Argutas* can just about pull down a tree.) *Kolomikta* ripens around mid-August, has small fruit and is less vigorous but more cold-hardy than *arguta* and should thrive even in the northernmost districts. Native to eastern Asia. (well-rooted transplants)

***A. arguta* 'Frenchman's Bay' Female.** Years ago Mark Fulford found this plant growing on an abandoned estate near Bar Harbor, about 500' from Frenchman's Bay. He liked the vigorous hardy vines and the fruit's large size and excellent flavor and...*voila*! Here they are thanks to local propagators Bill and Lauren Errickson of Singing Nettle Farm. Z4. **ME Grown**.

426A Frenchman's Bay
Female Kiwi, $14.50

***A. a.* 'Michigan State' Female.** Michigan State University. Grower Tom Vigue calls them "sweet and most highly luscious." A dynamic combination of sweet and sour. Although they may sometimes make you pucker up, the overall experience is joyous and delicious. Larger than other varieties. Z4.

427A Michigan State
Female Kiwi, $14.50

***A. a.* 'Meader'** Fruitless **male** kiwi suitable for pollinating *arguta* females Frenchman's Bay and Michigan State. Will not pollinate *kolomiktas*. Extremely vigorous vines are often grown just for their beautiful dark green ornamental foliage accentuated by reddish-pink petioles (leaf stalks). Z4.

428A Meader Male Kiwi, $14.50

***A. kolomikta* 'Red Beauty' Female.** Fruit is sweet and small, the size of a large grape. Medium-dark green foliage becomes showy red in autumn. Requires Arctic Beauty for pollination. Z3/4.

429A Red Beauty Female Kiwi , $14.50

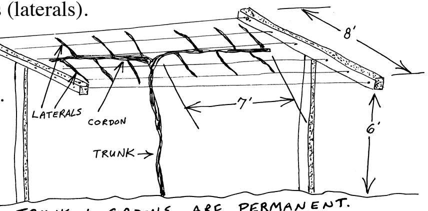
***A. k.* 'Arctic Beauty'** Fruitless **male** pollinator for Red Beauty. Will not pollinate *argutas*. Often grown by itself as an ornamental for its beautiful foliage. Young leaves emerge purple, then become variegated pink, white and green, looking as though they've been dipped in paint. Heat, excessive fertilization or shade may reduce the leaf color. Z3/4.

430A Arctic Beauty Male Kiwi, $14.50

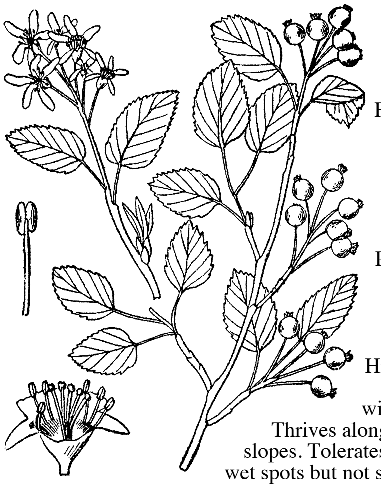
Kiwis are dioecious vines, meaning male and female flowers are on separate plants, so you must plant a male plant to pollinate the fruiting female plants. They are extremely vigorous and require a rugged trellis or arbor and heavy pruning. Plant vines 10' apart each way in moist but well-drained soil. Kiwis are adaptable and tolerate a wide range of soil types (pH 5.0–6.5). One male will pollinate several females as long as they are within approximately 30' of the male. Although the vines are quite hardy, the flowers and foliage are frost sensitive. Planting on a northern exposure will delay budding in spring and reduce risk of frost damage. Protection from winter winds and intense winter sun is also recommended. Mulch with hay or wood chips. On poor soil fertilize with compost annually.

On a trellis: Train a single trunk to the trellis wires and then train two permanent 7–10' cordons (arms) off the trunk. Each winter remove at least 70% of old growth, leaving a dozen or so one-year-old laterals. That year's fruit will develop on fruit spurs growing off these one-year-old canes (laterals). Summer pruning may be required to keep extremely rampant vines from choking out your farm.

On an arbor or gazebo: Once established, prune 70% of the old growth each year and leave some new canes for this year's fruiting. *The Pruning Book* by Lee Reich is an excellent reference for pruning kiwis.



TRUNK + CORDONS ARE PERMANENT. EACH YEAR CUT OFF OLD LATERALS AND LEAVE NEW LATERALS. FRUIT SPURS WILL DEVELOP OFF THESE CANES.



Amelanchier Also called **Juneberry**, **Parsonberry**, **Serviceberry**, **Saskatoon**, **Shadblow**, **Shadbush** and **Shad**. Folks downeast call it **Wild Pear.** Very hardy genus of spring-flowering shrubs and small trees with blueberry-like sweet edible berries. Beautiful fragrant 5-petaled white flowers are early harbingers of spring in Maine. Purplish-black sweet berries good in pies, cobblers, jellies, jams, smoothies and cakes. Berries are about the size of a lowbush blueberry, or a bit larger, and seedier. Historically used by native peoples to make pemmican. Popular with wildlife. Nice red-orange fall color. Thrives along stream beds as well as on rocky slopes. Tolerates partial shade, salt, pollution and wet spots but not standing water. **Considered to be self-fruitful but** we recommend planting with other Amelanchiers to ensure pollination. Note: taxonomically, Amelanchiers are a point of confusion in the nursery trade where common names and even botanical names are used interchangeably. Furthermore, these plants easily hybridize with each other. Below, we've highlighted salient features of each species. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

***A. alnifolia* 'Regent'** 4-6' x same. Commonly called **Juneberry** or **Saskatoon**. J. Candrian intro, Faribault, MN, 1997. An open-pollinated seedling originating near Regent, ND. Compact shrub with sweet purple-magenta berries. Fruit ripens in mid-July in central Maine. Plant in well-drained fertile soil and full sun. Considered to be self-fruitful but we recommend planting more than one for best fruit sets. Foliage somewhat susceptible to leaf spot or rust but this doesn't affect the fruit. Native to northwestern North America. Z2.

432A Regent Juneberry, $15.00

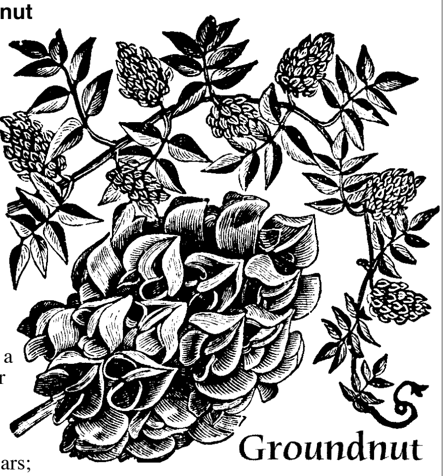
***A. laevis* Allegheny Serviceberry** 15-25' The most common Amelanchier in Maine. The unique purplish-orange bronzed color of the unfolding leaves on this understory tree is a favorite spring sight. Pendulous white blossoms precede the young leaves and are followed by berries that ripen in midsummer. Referred to as **Shad** or **Shadbush** by old-timers because the blossoms coincide with spring shad run in certain Maine streams. Likes well-drained acid soils along the edge of fields, streams and roads. Native midwest to eastern U.S. and Canada. Z2. **ME Grown.**

433A Allegheny Serviceberry, $15.00

***A.* x *grandiflora* Apple Serviceberry** 20-25' x 15' A natural hybrid of *A. laevis* and *A. arborea*. In his classic *The Best of the Hardiest*, John Sabuco calls apple serviceberry "possibly the most ornamental of all serviceberries." Large white blossoms in spring give way to showy sweet tasty purplish-black fruit. Small foliage emerges purple and then fades to coppery red and eventually to blue-green. Fall turns it a brilliant red-orange. Heavily branched rounded form. Attractive light grey bark. Full sun to full shade and anything in between. Soil adaptable. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

434A Apple Serviceberry, $15.00

***Apios americana* Groundnut**



Nitrogen-fixing leguminous perennial twining vine with edible tubers. Grows to about 5' long. Roots grow 1–6" deep and have periodic swellings (the groundnuts) that range from marble size to larger than a golf ball. These edible tubers can be harvested any time of year. Delicious, high in starch and protein. Peel them first, then eat them boiled, roasted, baked, mashed, sliced, diced or even puréed. Not recommended raw. Will keep a month or more in the fridge or root cellar, or dry them and they keep forever. An essential food for Native Americans for hundreds of years; also essential to the survival of the first European settlers in New England. Small orchid-like maroon, pink and violet flowers appear in late August in central Maine. Followed by 2–4" bean pods. Prefers moist sandy soil. Full to partial sun. Keep it out of your garden as it will spread. Can be vigorous and requires a trellis of some sort. Native to river banks and flood plains, southern Canada, eastern and midwestern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (tubers)

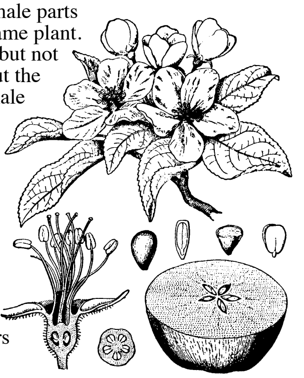
L435A Groundnut, bundle of 10, $15.00

***Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* Bearberry** Also called **Kinnikinick**, **Hog Cranberry**, **Mealberry**, **Sandberry**, **Mountain Box** or **Bear's Grape**. Delicate low-growing beautiful glossy evergreen spreading groundcover. Beautiful in rock gardens. One plant can spread to 15'. Small pinkish-white flowers in spring. Leaves are diuretic, astringent and antibacterial. Used before modern antibiotics in treating urinary infections. Tea may also have value as a general tonic. Small bright red drupe-type berries color up in late summer and persist into winter. Too insipid for fresh eating, but traditionally eaten by natives, often fried with fish. Prefers poor sandy infertile acid soils, tolerates salt. Can be sensitive to root disturbance, thus finicky in transplanting and may be slow to establish. Set plants 1–2' apart. No need ever to prune or fertilize. Sun or partial shade. Self-fertile, native to North America and Eurasia. Z2. **ME Grown.** (potted transplants)

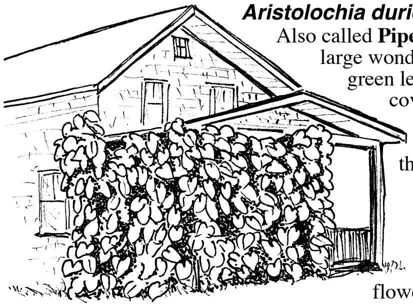
L436A Bearberry, $14.25

How does all this pollination stuff work, anyway?

Self-pollinating, **self-fertile** and **self-fruitful** all mean the same thing. You can plant a self-fertile tree and expect it to pollinate itself and set fruit alone (for example, peaches, pie cherries, apricots). However, many self-fertile trees' fruit sets are enhanced with multiple plantings (elderberries and amelanchiers). **Self-sterile** or **self-infertile** means that another tree of a different cultivar or variety is needed to set fruit (cross-pollinate). This is the case with most apples. **Monoecious** (from Greek meaning 'one household') plants have their female and male parts on separate flowers both together on the same plant. In most cases, these plants are self-fertile, but not always! (Black walnuts are monoecious but the male flower releases pollen before the female flowers open, so having two plants is better than one). **Dioecious** (meaning 'two households') plants have either all male or all female flowers on separate individuals. You would need to plant one female and one male to achieve pollination. When you buy unsexed seedlings, you generally have a 50-50 chance of getting one gender or the other (ginkgo, spicebush, bayberry, persimmon). **Bisexual** or **perfect** flowers contain both male and female components within the same flower. Some plants with perfect flowers will be self-fertile, some will not. Often, specific cultivars or varieties have perfect flowers but they cannot pollinate themselves and need other varieties to assist them (apples and blueberries).

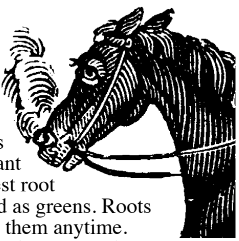


Bloom times for specific fruiting and ornamental plants are noted based on plants growing in our area. Even these are not set in stone. This year, most blooms were three weeks "late." Nature doesn't keep a calendar. If learning about bloom times is important for you in establishing your seasonal garden, look around your neighborhood and take note of the blooms you see in each season. Pay attention to how the weather from year to year affects the plants' timing.



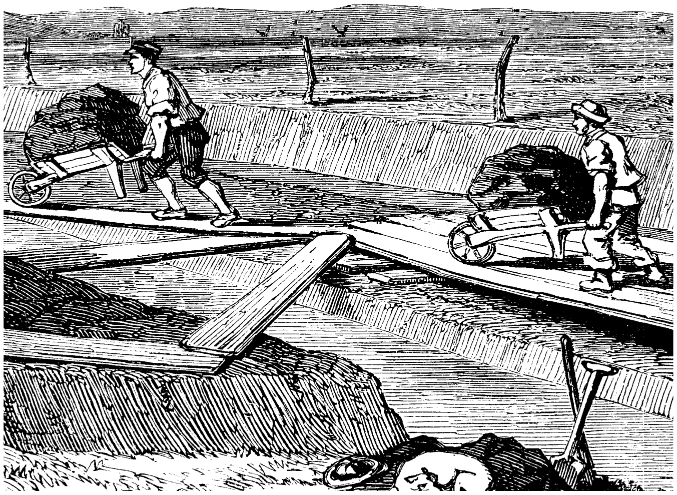
Aristolochia durior **Dutchman's Pipe** 20-30' Also called **Pipe Vine**. Vigorous climber with large wonderful 4–10" heart-shaped dark green leaves. Once established, it will cover the porch, trellis or gazebo every summer. Beware though—one vine can peel the shingles right off the side of your house! Provides all the privacy you ever wanted even if you live right in town. Inconspicuous U-shaped tubular white and mahogany flowers in clusters of 1–3 look like wee Dutchman's pipes. Sun or shade. Thrives in shade. Likes well-drained soil with adequate moisture. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. (well-rooted transplants)

437A Dutchman's Pipe, $16.00



Armoracia rusticana **'Big Top' Horseradish** Exceptionally vigorous perennial with large dock-like leaves and spicy hot roots, savored for centuries for their culinary and medicinal qualities. Horseradish tea is said to be an effective control for brown rot on stone fruit. Deep taproot with numerous shallow runner roots. Choose carefully where you plant it because you may never get it all out. Even the tiniest root piece will produce a new plant. Leaves can be cooked as greens. Roots are traditionally harvested in the fall, but you can dig them anytime. Roots keep 3–4 months in the fridge. To use as a stimulant, grate the fresh roots and mix with a little lemon juice or apple-cider vinegar and refrigerate. Use soon, then make more. Big Top is an especially disease-resistant variety. Prefers moist rich soil. Plant with the slanted cut down and the flat side up, or just toss them in and watch them grow. Native to northern Europe. Z3. (roots)

L438A Bigtop Horseradish, bundle of 5, $18.00



Wild Hugel Ditch

Down the center of my beautiful 10-acre field is a 250' long, 3' deep, 4' wide ditch, dug years ago for electrical conduit. In the fall when I first moved onto the land, the trench looked pretty ugly to me: rough with boulders and piles of soil all over the place, covered in grass, weeds and chokecherries. I looked forward to someday having the time and equipment to fill it in. In the meantime, I started filling it with all the random woody debris that I didn't have a good place for. How convenient, I thought—just throw it in the ditch!

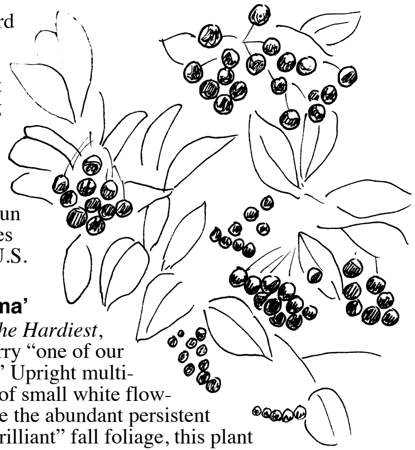
Summer rolls around and the trench is blooming with purple-blue vetch, bright yellow St. Johnswort, different species of goldenrod, milkweed, rudbeckia and meadowsweet. One day I stopped glaring at it long enough to think, "Wait a second, it's beautiful!" Not only that but it's a pollinator haven, the flowers buzzing with bees. The chokecherries are abundantly ripening and soon I'll make jelly or wine.

At some point it occurred to me what was happening—ditch-style hugelculture. When the ditch gets filled to the top with stumps, rootballs and other woody debris not suitable for the compost or burn pile, I toss on large clumps of perennials like daylily, phlox, boneset and blue vervain. I'm not even digging holes, just piling more scruffy debris and compost around the plants, which will eventually break down. These are not the fragile members of the perennial garden; they are the tough ones that are hard to kill. The more I toss in the ditch, the more diverse the wild hedge gets.

My ditch hugelculture is so much less time, work and expense than trying to remove the trench, and the fox dens and bird nests built there have been spared from destruction. What I once saw as an eyesore is now a thriving colorful hugelculture hedge alive with insects and animals.

–Lauren Cormier

Aronia **Chokeberry** Aronia has gotten a lot of press in recent years as a superfruit: it has wonderful medicinal qualities, works well in a range of culinary applications and is an important wildlife plant in the native landscape. Both red (*A. arbutifolia*) and black (*A. melanocarpa*) chokeberries are edible when cooked, but we emphasize the red as more of a wildlife and landscape plant, while the black may be a better choice for medicine and food. Black chokeberries are commercially cultivated for their high levels of antioxidants and myriad health benefits. Both species are small rounded shrubs with blueberry-sized fruit and show-stopping electric-red fall foliage.



Begins to bear fruit in its third year and increases to full yield around five years. Ripens in late July or early August. If not harvested, the berries will hang on the bushes until songbirds eat them in late winter. Will form colonies. Not particularly picky about where it grows: adaptable to wet or dry areas, sun or partial shade. Free of diseases and insects. Native to eastern U.S. Self-fruitful. Z3/4. (1-3')

A. arbutifolia **'Brilliantissima'** 6-8' x 3-4' In his book *Best of the Hardiest*, John Sabuco calls red chokeberry "one of our finest native landscape shrubs." Upright multi-stemmed form. Dense clusters of small white flowers with red stamens. Birds love the abundant persistent glossy bright red fruit. With "brilliant" fall foliage, this plant is the best alternative to the invasive burning bush. **ME Grown**.

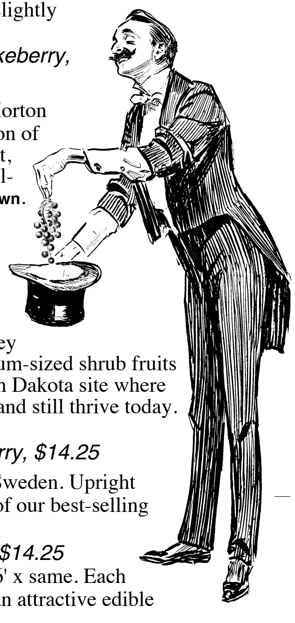
439A Brilliantissima Red Chokeberry, $14.25

A. a. **Red Chokeberry Seedlings** 6-10' x 3-6' Each one is genetically unique. Beautiful in mass plantings and borders. Plant several in a hedge and make the birds happy! **ME Grown.**

440A Red Chokeberry Seedlings, $13.50

440B Red Chokeberry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $55.00

A. melanocarpa **'Autumn Magic'** 3-6' x 4-7' University of British Columbia intro, 1996. Compact shrub selected for its magical combination of red and purple fall foliage. Fruit may be slightly larger than average. **ME Grown.**



441A Autumn Magic Black Chokeberry, $14.25

A. m. **'Iroquois Beauty'®** 3x5' or less. Morton Arboretum intro, Lisle, IL. A dwarfed version of the other cultivars, has a more compact habit, suitable for growing in smaller spaces. Excellent black fruit and beautiful foliage. **ME Grown**.

442A Iroquois Beauty Black Chokeberry, $14.25

A. m. **'McKenzie'** 5-10' x same. Bismarck, ND, 2008. Cultivar selected for use in farm windbreaks and wildlife conservation plantings. Extremely hardy, they don't mind Z3 winters and wind. This medium-sized shrub fruits abundantly. The name comes from the North Dakota site where the original seedlings were planted in 1976 and still thrive today. **ME Grown**.

443A McKenzie Black Chokeberry, $14.25

A. m. **'Viking'** 4-6' x same. Introduced in Sweden. Upright vigorous shrub produces tasty berries. One of our best-selling chokeberries. High-yielding. **ME Grown**.

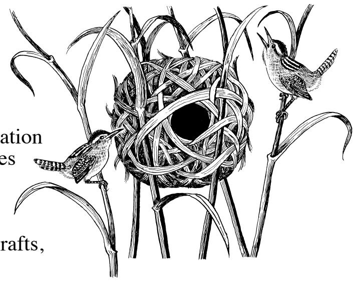
444A Viking Black Chokeberry, $14.25

A. m. **Black Chokeberry Seedlings** 3-6' x same. Each one is genetically unique. Plant several for an attractive edible hedge. **ME Grown**.

445A Black Chokeberry Seedlings, $13.50

445B Black Chokeberry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $55.00

Hedgerows Provide:



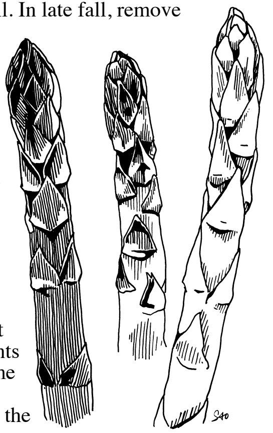
- forage for birds, bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, beneficial insects and humans
- protection for nesting birds and migratory animals
- erosion control and water conservation
- privacy screens, windbreaks, mazes or secret gardens
- texture, aroma, character and color in a cultivated landscape
- renewable material for kindling, crafts, bouquets and wood chips

***Asparagus officinalis* Asparagus** A spring staple for millennia, thought to have originated around the Mediterranean Sea, perhaps in Asia Minor. The pharaohs, Greeks and Romans were all aware of its highly nutritious qualities and delectable flavor. The earliest known American horticultural advertisement, from March 1719, is for "English Sparrow-grass Roots." Occasionally non–spear-forming females will show up in a planting. Leave them be or rogue them out as you wish. Requires fertile soil with pH 6.8–7.2 and high levels of phosphorus. John visited friends who added Biochar to their soil. Wow, were their roots beefy! Asparagus doesn't like weed competition. Plant when you receive your order or as soon as the ground can be worked. Plant 14–18" apart, 6–10" deep, in trenches 4' apart. Or dig your trenches somewhat deeper and fill the bottom with 4" of compost and rotted manure. Lay plants with crown up and cover with 2" of soil. Plants emerge very slowly. As young shoots grow, add soil gradually, just covering the shoots, until the trench is full. In late fall, remove dead stalks and mulch with 3" of manure.

Second summer: Add lime, rock fertilizers and nitrogen as needed. Control weeds but do not injure crowns.

Later years: Same routine but increase fertilizer. Be sure to leave some spears each year to grow stalks that will support the roots and give you more spears next year. Keep the bed weed-free and mulched heavily.

New research shows that asparagus can be selectively harvested for 2 weeks during the second growing season, for 4 weeks in the third, and a full season thereafter. We recommend caution in harvesting. Before the third or fourth season, harvest only the largest shoots from vigorous plants so the young plants can establish themselves. Uncut shoots become a light green feathery hedge, a beautiful backdrop to a flower garden. Honeybees love the dainty dangling flowers of asparagus. (large-rooted 1-yr crowns)



***A. o.* 'Jersey Supreme' Asparagus** Early. Rutgers U. release in 2000, All-male hybrid that is more productive than the older all-male varieties. Excellent tolerance to asparagus rust and fusarium crown rot. Produces high yields of large-diameter tender spears in spring. Z4.

L446A Jersey Supreme Asparagus, bundle of 25, $25.00

***A. o.* 'Purple Passion' Asparagus** Early. Developed from the Italian heirloom Violetto di Albenga. Brian Benson intro. Very large deep purple stalk with a creamy white interior. Purple asparagus are actually a type of white asparagus shown the light. Sweeter and less stringy than its green counterparts, so you can use more of the spear. Tender enough to eat raw in salads. Turns green when cooked. Z4.

L447A Purple Passion Asparagus, bundle of 25, $25.00

***Betula nigra* River Birch** 60-80' x 40-60' With its graceful silhouette and attractive bark, river birch is a highly prized ornamental. Grows to be a very large rounded tree. Found along stream banks and riparian areas where conditions are wet in winter and spring, dry in summer and fall. Dark green summer foliage yellows before dropping. The beautiful reddish-brown exfoliating bark reveals the equally ornamental multi-shaded inner bark. Leaves, twigs and bark traditionally used by Cherokee and Chippewa to treat various stomach ailments. Birds eat the seeds and deer browse the foliage. Wood not as valuable as other birch. Prefers moist acid soil. Fast growing, trouble free. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. (2-5')

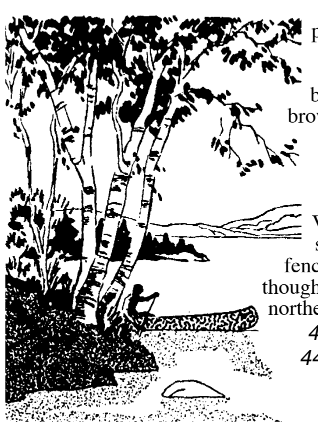
448A River Birch, $15.00

448B River Birch, bundle of 5, $67.00

***B. papyrifera* Paper Birch** 30-70' x 30' Also called **Canoe Birch** or **White Birch**. The classic birch tree. Elegant as a single- or multi-stemmed specimen. Medium-sized tree with an irregular oval shape, upright angled branches and magnificent chalk-white peeling bark. Deep green foliage produces light shade in summer and turns clear yellow in fall. Birds prize the catkins, buds and seeds. Twigs are a favorite deer browse. Bark traditionally used for building canoes, containers and roofing. When traveling in the north country, keep a small bundle of finely shredded bark in your pocket to kindle the nightly fire. Valuable wood at the sawmill. Branches, stuck into the ground, are perfect for pea fencing. Prefers moist well-drained acid soil though we've seen it thrive on ledge. Native to northern North America. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-5')

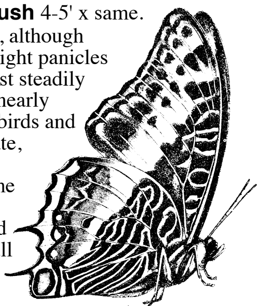
449A Paper Birch, $15.00

449B Paper Birch, bundle of 5, $67.00

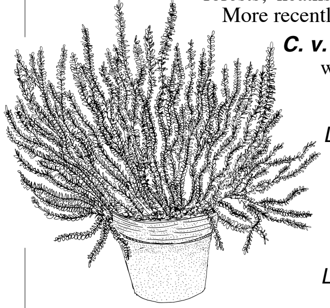


***Buddleia davidii* 'Royal Red' Butterfly Bush** 4-5' x same. Michael Dirr considers this the best "red" form, although flowers are really more of a deep magenta. Upright panicles up to 14" long of slightly fragrant flowers persist steadily June through September. Sweet nectar attracts nearly every butterfly in the neighborhood. Hummingbirds and bees love it, too. Grey-green foliage emerges late, often in early June. Blooms on new wood each summer. Upright spreading habit. A troublesome escapee of the garden in western U.S. but not (yet) so in Maine where plants die to the ground each year. Treat as an herbaceous perennial. Full sun, intolerant of wet conditions. Native to China. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

450A Royal Red Butterfly Bush, $15.00



***Calluna vulgaris* Heather** Magical, mythical and medicinal evergreen groundcover features a spread of flowers in late summer ranging through the colors of the rainbow. Colorful foliage in autumn. Each year we vary our selection but always offer the hardiest varieties proven to flourish in northern climates. Revered in the British Isles, important medicinally in teas, liniments and ointments. First fermented a few thousand years ago, used in gruit, ale, and might be the original ingredient for the first whiskey. Branches used in thatching, bedding, basketry, rope-making, broom-making and even insulation. Flowers attract bees, butterflies and moths, especially when planted in masses or as low-growing hedges. Heather honey is highly prized for medicinal benefit. Recommended as a groundcover, for rock gardens and edges of paths—or for opening the portals to the fairy world! Requires acidic soil and full sun to partial shade. Plant about 18" apart each way and let it spread. Mix peat into the soil to lower the pH if necessary—see planting instructions for cranberries and blueberries. Does not like high fertility or wet spots. Shear every April for best bloom. Native to the dry forests, heaths and bare grounds of Britain and Ireland. More recently naturalized in North America. Z4. (4" pots)



***C. v.* 'Alba Jae'** 12x18" Bright green foliage with white flowers in August highlight intricate leaf scales. Tips turn gold in summer and last the rest of the year. Upright tidy branches.

L451A Alba Jae Heather, $11.00

***C. v.* 'Bonfire Brilliance'** 12x18" Yellow-green foliage through summer then lilac-pink flowers Aug.–Sept. Foliage turns orange as temperatures cool and eventually become fiery red to bronze in the fall.

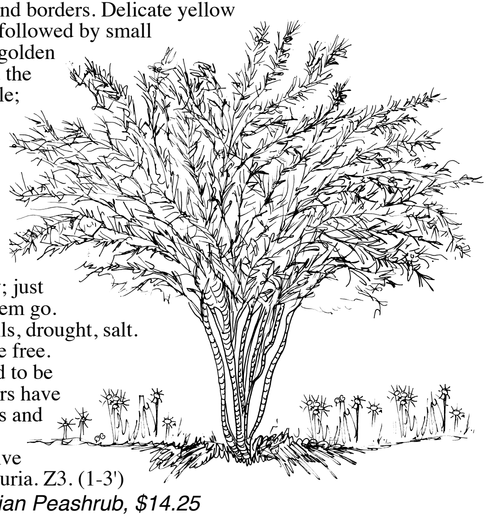
L452A Bonfire Brilliance Heather, $11.00

***Calycanthus floridus* Carolina Allspice** 6-10' x 6-12' Beautiful aromatic native shrub with unique 1" dark maroon flowers blooms as it breaks dormancy in April and May and continues flowering sporadically through the summer. Upright flowers resemble small magnolias with petals spiraling into similar-looking sepals, a characteristic of many primitive plants. Highly fragrant blooms reminiscent of pineapples and bananas. Dirr considers it one of the great treasures of eastern North America, especially when allowed to grow into a large open specimen. Flowers on new wood so best pruned in summer. Partial sun and moist rich soil. Native to stream edges and woodlands of southeastern U.S. Z5. (1-3')

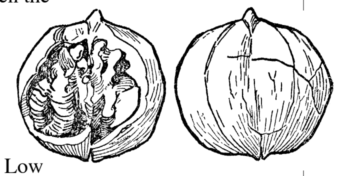
453A Carolina Allspice, $14.25

***Caragana arborescens* Siberian Peashrub** 15-20' Nitrogen-fixing cheerful bright green upright multi-stemmed oval shrub well-suited to windbreaks, hedges and borders. Delicate yellow flowers in spring are followed by small seed pods that turn a golden yellow. The pods and the small "peas" are edible; eaten raw, they taste like garden peas, though not as sweet. Makes an acceptable chicken feed. Silvery bark and compound foliage, each with 8–12 small obovate leaflets. Easy to grow; just put them in and let them go. Adaptable to poor soils, drought, salt. Full sun. Maintenance free. Occasionally rumored to be invasive, although ours have stayed put for decades and not spread by seed or root. Self-fertile. Native to Siberia and Manchuria. Z3. (1-3')

454A Siberian Peashrub, $14.25



***Carya cordiformis* Bitternut Hickory** 50-80' x 30-50' Beautiful tall long-lived native shade tree with graceful compound leaves and smooth grey bark that becomes furrowed with age. Mustard-yellow buds stand out in winter. Nuts ripen in the fall and are bitter; even the squirrels pass them by. Begins to bear fruit around its 25th year. Several moth species, including the luna moth, depend on hickory leaves for forage. Strong close-grained shock-resistant wood was traditionally used for yokes, wheels, tools and ladders and is now grown for lumber and firewood. Prefers rich moist well-drained soil, full sun to part shade. Low maintenance, excellent street tree. Plant more than one in the unlikely event that you want fruit. Native to eastern and midwestern N. America. Z4. (2-5')

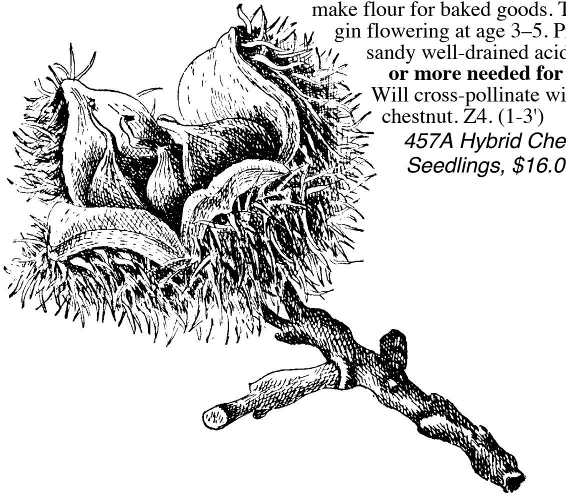


455A Bitternut Hickory, $15.00

***Castanea dentata* American Chestnut Seedlings** Up to 100' Before 1900 American chestnut was one of the most important deciduous trees in the eastern U.S. The arrow-straight rot-resistant wood was used for everything from mine timbers to musical instruments. Delicious sweet nuts were an important food for wildlife and humans. The Asian fungus *Endothia parasitica* (chestnut blight) was discovered in Brooklyn in 1904; within 50 years it killed virtually every chestnut tree in the eastern U.S. The blight does not kill the roots however, and rare isolated stands of mature trees can still be found. The trees we're offering are not immune to blight but were harvested from healthy trees and will likely thrive if there is no active blight infection within a mile. Fast-growing and straight-trunked with a wide-branching magnificent rounded crown. Fragrant white blooms in July. Ribbed sharp-toothed lustrous dark green foliage. Yellow fall color. Prefers loamy well-drained acidic soil and full sun. **Two or more needed for pollination** but will cross-pollinate with Asian and European chestnuts. Precocious, bearing heavy crops of nuts in 10 years. From each American chestnut purchase, Fedco will donate $3 to support the work of the American Chestnut Foundation Maine Chapter. Z4. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

456A American Chestnut Seedlings, $22.00

***C.* Hybrid Chestnut Seedlings** Truly hybrid crosses of *C. crenata* (Japanese), *C. mollissima* (Chinese) and *C. dentata* (American) with a few *C. sativa* (European) genes mixed in. These seeds were sprouted from a 40-year-old chestnut orchard in West Danby, NY. For decades the orchard has been thinned and culled ruthlessly to find the best genetics. All the trees have excellent blight resistance, large nuts and are hardy to at least –25°. High annual nut production averages 20–50 lbs per tree. Excellent flavor, much better than chestnuts from the store. Grower Akiva Silver uses them for roasting, stuffing and soups or dries them to make flour for baked goods. Typically begin flowering at age 3–5. Prefers loamy sandy well-drained acidic soil. **Two or more needed for pollination.** Will cross-pollinate with American chestnut. Z4. (1-3')

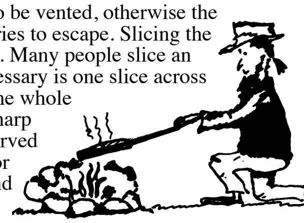


457A Hybrid Chestnut Seedlings, $16.00

Roasting Chestnuts

Roasted chestnuts are a great treat during fall and winter. My family particularly enjoys roasting chestnuts in the woods, cooked on a bed of hot coals. At home, we set chestnuts on top of the woodstove for about 5 minutes on each side. It is okay if the shells burn a little, the nut is usually fine inside. I prefer them slightly over-cooked. Recommended cooking times and temps vary, but there is no wrong way to roast a chestnut. Cook it less and it will be crunchier, longer and it'll be softer.

Before roasting, the shell needs to be vented, otherwise the nut might explode as steam inside tries to escape. Slicing the shell also makes peeling a lot easier. Many people slice an "x" into the shell, but all that is necessary is one slice across the middle. Try not to cut through the whole nut, just through the shell. A very sharp knife helps, and a chestnut knife, curved like a hook and specifically made for cutting rounded nuts, is very safe and useful.



–Akiva Silver, Fedco grower

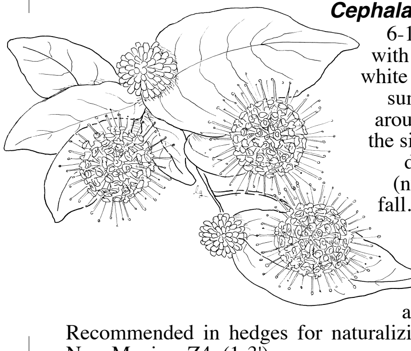
***Catalpa speciosa* Northern Catalpa** 40-60' Also known as **Western Catalpa**, **Elephant Ear Tree**, **Catawba** and **Cigar Tree**. Fast-growing coarse habit with a somewhat narrow open irregular crown and thick interesting undulant branches. Dense foliage of huge "elephant ear" heart-shaped leaves provides excellent shade. Covered in early summer with clusters of ruffled incredibly fragrant jasmine-scented white blossoms each dotted with purple and spotted with rich buttery yellow radiating from the throat. Flowers attract bees by day and moths by night. Fruits are long bean-like "cigar" pods. The wood is extremely rot resistant and was once used to make railroad ties in the Midwest. Prefers deep moist fertile soil, but thrives in almost any condition, sun or part shade. Grows rapidly. Remains dormant late into spring. Self-fertile. Native to central U.S. Z4. (2-5')

458A Northern Catalpa, $18.00

***Celtis occidentalis* Hackberry** 40-60' x same, but can grow to 100' Long-lived shade tree that will grow in a wide range of conditions. Produces a hard little blue-black fruit, important fall and winter forage for birds and mammals. The larvae of several butterfly species rely on its leaves. Mature specimens exhibit corky ridged bark, spreading crown and slightly arching limbs like its relative the elm, but not as dramatic. A lovely old specimen grows in Belgrade where Laura harvests blueberries. Must have been deposited by a traveling critter because it's the only one around. Very adaptable, tolerates shade, wind and pollution. Loves moist well-drained soils and full sun. Hackberry is late to break dormancy. Plant and water once and then don't water again until the leaves emerge. OK to prune heavily before planting, especially in very arid climates. Susceptible to witches' broom. Immune to Dutch elm disease. Native from southern Quebec to North Carolina and west. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-5')

459A Hackberry, $16.00

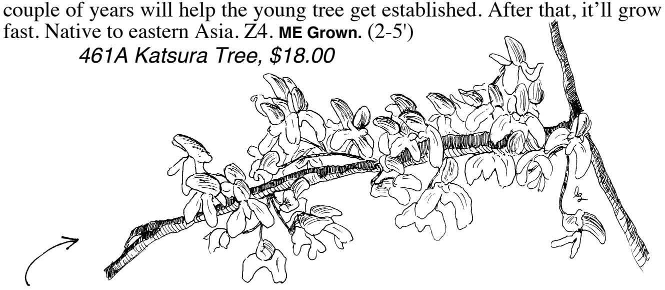
***Cephalanthus occidentalis* Buttonbush** 6-10' x 8' Loose rounded branchy shrub with masses of unusual spherical fragrant white flowers that appear for 4–6 weeks in summer—a magnet for every honeybee around. These highly ornamental blooms the size of ping-pong balls also do well in dried flower arrangements. The seeds (nutlets) make good duck fodder in the fall. Bright green foliage. Often found in masses along the shores of New England's rivers and ponds but also suitable for the garden. We've seen single specimens thriving and looking great. Prefers moist soils. Recommended in hedges for naturalizing. Native to eastern U.S, west to New Mexico. Z4. (1-3')



460A Buttonbush, $14.25

***Cercidiphyllum japonicum* Katsura Tree** 40-60' x 20-30' One of the most prized of all ornamental trees and a common sight in the Japanese garden. Multi-trunked with a pyramidal to wide-spreading form. Beautiful drooping heart-shaped foliage emerges a glowing reddish-purple, becoming bluish-green during the summer and then a delightful apricot-yellow in fall. Leaves flutter in the breeze, shimmering and reflecting light. Fallen leaves exude the sweet fragrance of caramelized sugar. Shaggy bark. Michael Dirr wrote that if he had to pick one favorite tree, it would be the katsura tree: "overwhelming in overall attractiveness." It's worth the drive to Asticou Azalea Garden on Mount Desert to see the mature specimens by the pond. Prefers rich moist well-drained soil. Supplemental watering during the first couple of years will help the young tree get established. After that, it'll grow fast. Native to eastern Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-5')

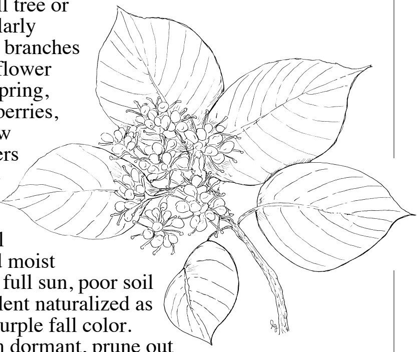
461A Katsura Tree, $18.00



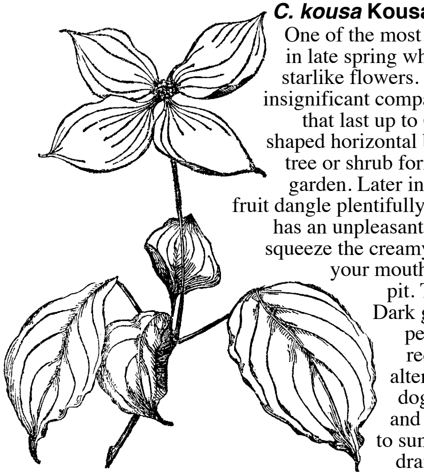
***Cercis canadensis* Redbud** 25-30' x same. Small vase-shaped single- or multi-stemmed tree is highly ornamental with edible flowers and seeds. In early spring, clusters of small brilliant purplish-pink pea-like flowers are so abundant they fill the entire tree, dotting the branches and even coming right out of the trunk. Flowers edible raw or cooked. Flat leguminous 2–3" pods have roastable edible seeds high in antioxidants. Nitrogen-fixing tree is also valuable as an early-season nectar plant for bees. Large heart-shaped leaves emerge opaque pink, mature to deep green and turn yellow in fall. Smooth dark bark becomes plated and brick-red with purple undertones. Sun or partial shade, soil adaptable. Fine as a specimen tree or in groups. May need sweating before planting to break dormancy, instructions on page 4. Native to central and eastern U.S. Customers report that it is reliably blooming in Zone 4. (2-4')

462A Redbud, $17.00

Cornus alternifolia **Pagoda Dogwood** 20' x 30-35' Also known as **Alternate-Leaved Dogwood**. Small tree or large multi-stemmed shrub, particularly beautiful with its tiers of horizontal branches and extremely fragrant white 2–3" flower clusters. These appear in mid-late spring, followed by immature olive-green berries, each tipped with a tiny bright yellow style remnant. In midsummer clusters of dark blue berries ripen above the blue-green foliage. One of the most popular dogwoods with the birds. Roots, bark and inner bark all medicinal. Prefers partial shade and moist well-drained acid soil, but tolerates full sun, poor soil and even clay. pH adaptable. Excellent naturalized as a specimen or in groups. Reddish-purple fall color. Susceptible to golden canker. When dormant, prune out diseased branches to prevent spores spreading to the trunk. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')



463A Pagoda Dogwood, $16.00



C. kousa **Kousa Dogwood** 20-30' x same. One of the most eye-catching flowering trees in late spring when layered with milky-white starlike flowers. The true flowers are actually insignificant compared to the large white bracts that last up to 6 weeks in full bloom. Vase-shaped horizontal branching can be pruned to a tree or shrub form, an ideal specimen for any garden. Later in summer pink golf ball-sized fruit dangle plentifully from the branches. The skin has an unpleasantly coarse texture but you can squeeze the creamy sweet white flesh right into your mouth—just be sure to spit out the pit. Taste reminds us of pawpaw. Dark green glossy leaves have few pests or diseases and change to red in fall. Used up north as an alternative to the iconic southern dogwood tree *C. florida*. Tough and low maintenance. Adaptable to sun or shade. Prefers light well-drained soil. Native to Asia. Z4.

C. k. **'Big Apple'** Very large fruit. Propagated from Tom Vigue's trees in Sidney, ME. Larger sweeter fruit than other kousas makes this the ideal variety for snacking. Productive year after year. Tom's trees suffered no damage in last winter's –20° lows. *Limited supply*. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

464A Big Apple Kousa Dogwood, $25.00

C. k. **var. *chinensis* Chinese Dogwood** Introduced by EH Wilson, Hupeh, China, 1907. Dirr considers this one of the most beautiful of all flowering trees. Very similar to the straight species except with slightly larger flowers and more free-flowing form. Large bracts on flowers start out greenish and turn white. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

465A Chinese Dogwood, $16.00

Weed or Wildlfower?

Wildflowers that wear out their welcome in the rich loose soil of a garden can be beneficial in areas that don't get mowed or cultivated. These plants we don't buy at a nursery or start from seed are hanging around waiting for the opportunity to germinate in any piece of turned up soil.

Cow Vetch (*Vicia cracca*) Nitrogen fixer, improves soil, flowers brilliant blue-purple in June, and holds up well in a vase. Purple vetch (*Vicia americana*) is native but the non-native species are most commonly seen naturalized in fields.

Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.) Numerous native species and possibly the most abundant of all the wildflowers in New England. One of the best late flowers for pollinators. Often mistaken for ragweed, which causes allergies.

Aster (*Aster* spp.) Quite ornamental and grows most places. Late in the season when little else is still in bloom, the bees seek out aster.

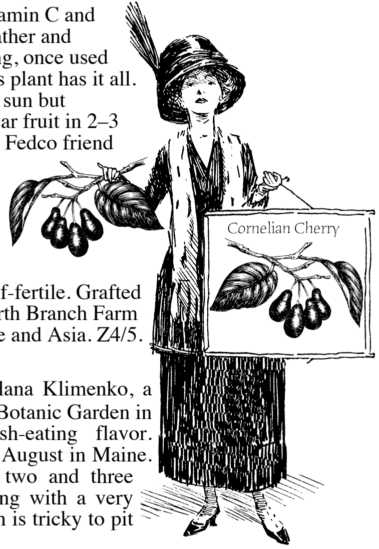
Carpetweed (*Mollugo verticillata*) Well-behaved attractive spreading groundcover of rosettes carpet sandy soil as soon as the ground warms. Beneficial living mulch in wild gardens. Produces very few seeds.

Queen Anne's Lace (*Daucus carota*) Biennial wildflower aerates soil with deep taproots. If you believe in folklore, place this flower under your pillow and your dreams will come true.

Fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*) Bright magenta-purple flowers in July. Spreads in colonies in sandy depleted soil. Good for erosion control but will take over without vigorous competition.

Violet (*Viola* spp.) Vigorous perennial groundcover quickly overpowers other members of the garden but pleasant when scattered in fields and orchards where low-growing perennials are desired. Shade tolerant.

C. mas **Cornelian Cherry** 20-25' x 15-20' Gaining popularity in the U.S., the fruits of this Old World gem have been harvested by humans for thousands of years. Bright red pear-shaped edible "cherries" set heavily in late summer. Let them fully ripen to their full sweet potential before picking. Clusters of small delicate yellow flowers cover the leafless tree in early spring for a striking show before the forsythias even think of waking up. Long-lived large shrub with upright rounded habit makes a great edible hedge or can be pruned to a small tree. Nutritious, medicinal, high in vitamin C and good in jam, syrup, tarts, fruit leather and wine. The wood is hard and strong, once used for spears and wheel spokes. This plant has it all. Prefers well-drained soil and full sun but otherwise adaptable. Likely to bear fruit in 2–3 years. Of the two cultivars listed, Fedco friend and consultant Tom Vigue says, "Pioneer may sound like the more worthwhile of the two, but I wouldn't be without Elegant. It is truly delicious. I believe having two cultivars improves pollination success." Partially self-fertile. Grafted and grown by Seth Yentes of North Branch Farm in Monroe, ME. Native to Europe and Asia. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (2-4')



C. m. **'Elegant'** Bred by Svetlana Klimenko, a Ukranian botanist at the Central Botanic Garden in Kiev. Selected for good fresh-eating flavor. Ripens around the third week of August in Maine. Picking window lasts between two and three weeks. Fruits are about $1^{1}/4$" long with a very slender elongate shape. Soft flesh is tricky to pit so best eaten out of hand.

466A Elegant Cornelian Cherry, $25.00

C. m. **'Pioneer'** Another Klimenko intro with good flavor. More tart than Elegant but better for processing. Ripens around the first week of September in Maine, about one week after Elegant. Picking window lasts for three or four weeks. Fruits mature to about $1^{1}/2$" long and have a pronounced fat pear shape. Firm flesh is easy to pit.

467A Pioneer Cornelian Cherry, $25.00

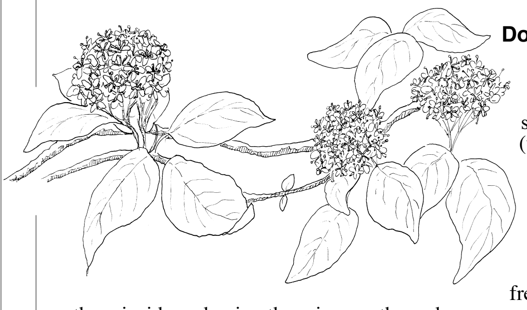
C. m. **Cornelian Cherry Seedlings** Each one will be unique. Plant several for genetic diversity. They will pollinate each other and any named cornelian cherry cultivar. (1-3')

468A Cornelian Cherry Seedlings, $16.00

468B Cornelian Cherry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $65.00

C. sanguinea **'Winter Flame' Dogwood** 3-5' x 3-5' Hybridized by Dutch breeder Andre Van Nijnatten in Zudert, Netherlands, 1987. Roundish shrub with bright winter bark coloration—yellow flames to orange then red at branch tips. Spectacular in winter floral arrangements or in a mass planting against white snow. Prune back to 6" high in April for optimum color on new wood. Dark green summer leaves turn to a glowing yellow-orange in fall. Flat clusters of small white flowers attract beneficial insects; birds like the small black fruit. Highly adaptable to clay or sandy soil, full sun or partial shade. Suckers less than most dogwoods. Species native to Europe. Z4.

470A Winter Flame Dogwood, $16.00

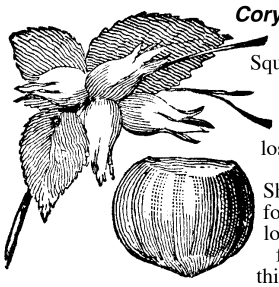


C. sericea **Redosier Dogwood** 8-10' Formerly called ***C. stolonifera***. Broad loosely rounded multi-stemmed shrub spreads freely by stolons (underground stems) and forms excellent hedges and borders. Most admirable in the winter when the masses of brilliant red stems contrast a backdrop of freshly fallen snow. Bring them inside and enjoy them in wreaths and arrangements. By June, the stems are hidden by dark green foliage and sprinkled with tiny 4-petaled star-shaped flowers. Whitish berries in 2–3" clusters are popular with nearly 50 bird species. One of the most valuable of our native wildlife plants. Perfect for swamps, streams and wetlands. Very adaptable to a range of soils and climates, but generally likes wet conditions. Sun or partial shade. Fast growing and easy to transplant. To improve stem color, prune out older stems in the spring. Native to eastern U.S. Z2. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

471A Redosier Dogwood, $16.00

471B Redosier Dogwood, bundle of 5, $65.00

> What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered.
> –Ralph Waldo Emerson



HAZELNUT.

Corylus americana **American Hazelnut** or **American Filbert** 12-18' x 10-15' Squirrels, bluejays and humans alike relish the sweet excellent nuts of this multi-stemmed rounded native shrub. Collect the crop as soon as the husks begin to turn brown and lose their sticky yellowness. In central Maine that's around the third week of September. Showy catkins in spring. Dark green serrated foliage in summer. A patchwork of reds, yellows, oranges and greens in autumn. Suckers from the roots. Excellent for naturalizing in thickets. The main pest is nut weevil, which leaves a "hit" mark on the nut shell. (Raking up drops and spraying Surround may help with controlling this problem.) Prefers well-drained soils and is pH adaptable. Full sun or light shade. May be self-fruitful but for best nut sets plant more than one shrub, 4–6' apart. Usually bears tasty 1/2" nuts 3–5 years after planting. Native to the U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

472A American Hazelnut, $16.00

Crataegus douglassii **Douglas Hawthorn** 10-25' x same. Sweet black 1/4–1/2" haws were cooked, dried and preserved by natives throughout northwestern U.S. and Canada. Tight clusters of white flowers in late May to early June turn to black fruit in autumn. Flowers smell unpleasant but attract birds and butterflies. Bright glossy green foliage in summer turns yellow in fall. Multi-stemmed unless pruned to a single trunk from a young age. *Hawthorn* is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word *haguthorn*, which means 'fence with thorns'—it's commonly used as fencing for livestock around field edges in much of Europe. 1" thorns protruding from reddish-brown bark are reportedly strong enough to puncture a tractor tire. Named for Scottish botanist and explorer David Douglas who introduced to Britain more than 200 plant species in the 1800s before his tragic death at age 35. While on a plant expedition in Hawaii, he allegedly fell into a pit trap with a bull and was crushed. Thrives in full sun and dry conditions. Drought tolerant. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

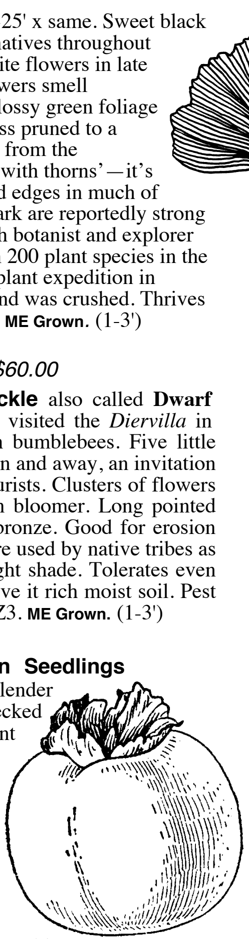
474A Douglas Hawthorn, $15.50

474B Douglas Hawthorn, bundle of 5, $60.00

Diervilla lonicera **Northern Bush Honeysuckle** also called **Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle** 2-4' x 2-5' Every time we've visited the *Diervilla* in grower Sharon Turner's garden, it's buzzing with bumblebees. Five little bright yellow petals on each tubular flower curl open and away, an invitation to insects, hummingbirds, butterflies and garden tourists. Clusters of flowers form in the axils of new growth. Extended season bloomer. Long pointed lustrous dark green leaves emerge with a hint of bronze. Good for erosion control or mass planting. Bark, roots and leaves were used by native tribes as a diuretic and to treat eye problems. Full sun to light shade. Tolerates even the poorest soils, but if you want it to naturalize, give it rich moist soil. Pest and disease free. Native to eastern North America. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

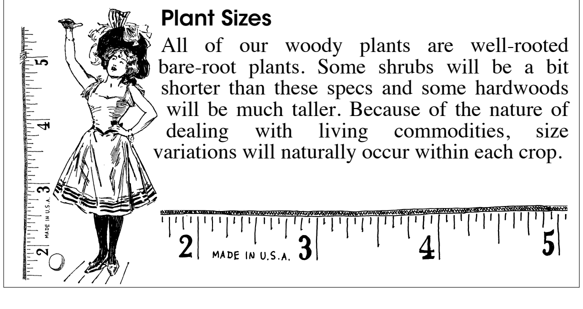
475A Diervilla, $14.25

Diospyros virginiana **American Persimmon Seedlings** 35-60' x 20-35' Medium-sized native tree with a slender oval crown, glossy dark green foliage, beautiful checked bark and edible 1 1/2" orange fruit. Small very fragrant yellowish flowers in spring attract pollinators from miles around. Foliage turns attractive reddish-purple in fall. Fruit is variable and extremely astringent before thoroughly ripening. Best after a frost. Be sure it's soft before you bite—your mouth just might implode! Use in pies, jams and jelly. May not ripen north of Boston though some folks report getting fruit in Maine in years when the frost is less severe. May die back in winter. Prefers moist well-drained sandy soil but adaptable to dry areas of low fertility. Dioecious, requiring separate male and female plants to produce fruit. These are unsexed seedlings. **Plant 2 or more to ensure fruit.** Can sucker and form naturalized stands. Not difficult to transplant. Native to eastern U.S. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (2-4')



476A American Persimmon, $15.00

476B American Persimmon, bundle of 5, $67.00

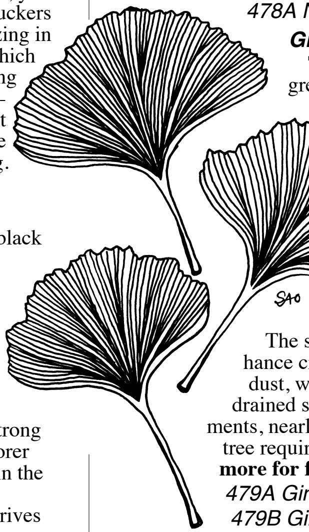


Plant Sizes

All of our woody plants are well-rooted bare-root plants. Some shrubs will be a bit shorter than these specs and some hardwoods will be much taller. Because of the nature of dealing with living commodities, size variations will naturally occur within each crop.

Forsythia* x *ovata **'Northern Gold' Forsythia** 6-8' x 5-7' Ottawa, Canada, 1979. One of the earliest forsythia cultivars to flower in spring. Upright form with yellow-grey branches clad in healthy rich green foliage. If your forsythia blooms only from the snow line down, you've been duped: don't buy cheap big-box forsythia. Northern Gold has not only the bud hardiness necessary for flower production above the snow line, but also outstanding golden-yellow flowers. You can have a full bloom every year! Prefers moderately fertile, slightly acid to neutral soils with good drainage. Makes an outstanding hedge. Bred from *F. ovata*, a hardy dependably blooming Korean species native to Asia and Europe. Z3. (1-3')

478A Northern Gold Forsythia, $14.25



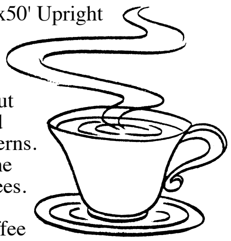
Ginkgo biloba **Ginkgo** 50-80' Also called **Maidenhair Tree**. Considered the oldest living genus of seed plants; grew in North America in the time of the dinosaurs. There are 3000-year-old specimens in China. Upright tree when young with branches that spike out and up like the rays of the sun, eventually becoming wide-spreading and graceful. Slow-growing, can be extremely long-lived. Unique fan-shaped foliage turns sparkling golden-yellow in fall, then all at once the leaves drop and within hours the tree is bare. Famous for their edible seeds enclosed in infamously stinky fruit. The flesh will actually rot off all on its own, leaving clean edible nuts with no bad smell. The softish nuts can be used in stir-fries. Leaf tea used to enhance circulation to the brain and extremities. Tolerates smoke, dust, wind, ice, insects, disease, salt. Prefers slightly acid well-drained soil but is very adaptable. Minimal maintenance requirements, nearly indestructible, an excellent city tree. Male and female tree required for fruit. These are unsexed seedlings. **Plant two or more for fruit.** Native to southeastern China. Z3. (1-3')

479A Ginkgo, $15.00

479B Ginkgo, bundle of 5, $67.00

Gleditsia triacanthos **Honeylocust** 50' x 30-35' Beautiful fast-growing pyramidal leguminous nitrogen-fixing tree. Fabulously fragrant honey-scented spring flowers are extremely popular with bees—the entire tree will hum with activity during peak blossom time. Bright green lacy leaves provide filtered light, making it good for "two-story" agriculture or great shade for the lawn. Sugary pods suitable for cattle or pig forage or even ethanol. Traditionally pods were dried, ground and used in flour. Good for erosion control and often used as a street tree. Plant in full sun, well-drained soil. Tolerates drought, pollution, salt, disease and insects. May have thorns. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown** (2-4')

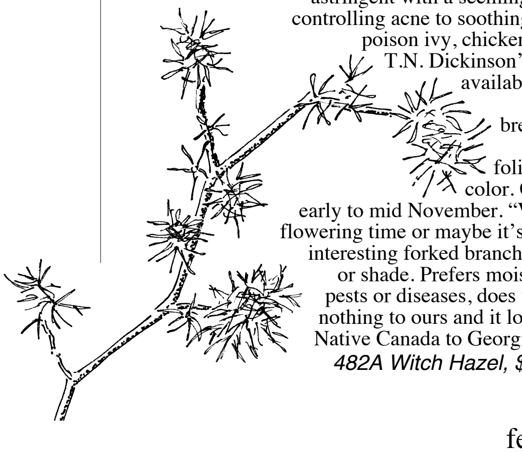
480A Honeylocust, $15.00



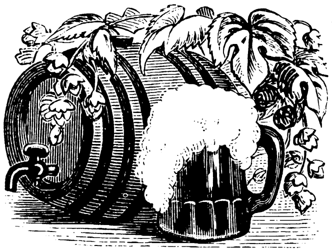
Gymnocladus dioica **Kentucky Coffeetree** 50x50' Upright open-spreading dioecious specimen tree ideal for lawns or any spot that needs dappled shade. Grass will grow right up to the trunk. Stout branches and deeply furrowed bark. Lovely winter profile. Leafs out very late in spring. Blue-green bipinnately compound foliage hangs in perfect layers creating beautiful patterns. Fragrant greenish-white 12–18" flower panicles on the female trees, 3" panicles on the male. Attractive to bees. 3–8" seed pods on females. Early European settlers roasted, ground and boiled the seeds to produce a coffee substitute; however, raw seeds are poisonous to people and animals. Grows fast when young, slowing as the tree matures. Prefers deep moist soil but is adaptable to many conditions including alkaline soils, salt, city streets and drought. Disease free. Requires full sun. These are unsexed seedlings. Plant at least a pair if you're intent on kicking coffee. Native to the eastern U.S. Z3/4. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

481A Kentucky Coffeetree, $18.00

Hamamelis virginiana **Witch Hazel** 8-20' x same. A small irregular rounded fall-flowering medicinal tree or large shrub. Makes a soothing astringent with a seemingly endless number of uses from controlling acne to soothing diaper rash, baggy eyes (yes!), poison ivy, chicken pox, even an unhappy lovelife. T.N. Dickinson's Witch Hazel Astringent is still available in your local drug store. Most preparations involve simply brewing tea from the leaves and/or twigs. Oval hazel-like textured foliage. Brilliant golden-yellow fall color. Quirky yellow flowers appear in early to mid November. "Witch" is said to refer to the odd flowering time or maybe it's because dowsers like to use the interesting forked branches to "witch" for water. Full sun or shade. Prefers moist acid soils; avoid dry spots. No pests or diseases, does well with very little care. We do nothing to ours and it looks better and better every year. Native Canada to Georgia. Z3. (1-3')



482A Witch Hazel, $16.00



Humulus lupulus **Common Hops** Late summer. Up to 20-30' Beautiful twining vine covers a trellis, archway or the entire side of a barn. Our favorite live awning to shade out the summer sun. Green lobed leaves, bristly stems, and insignificant greenish flowers, followed by the hops: papery aromatic cone-like strobiles used medicinally and in brewing for over 1000 years. John Christopher recommends the strobile tea as "a powerful, stimulating and relaxing nerve tonic." For brewing, there are basically two types of hops. Aroma hops have a lower percentage of alpha acids and are used for flavoring, finishing or conditioning brews. Bitter hops have more alpha acids and are used to impart bitterness. Tolerates shade, adapted to most well-drained soils. Dies back to the ground in fall and rebounds more vigorously each year. Plant it where you want it because it really takes over. No serious pests or diseases. Native to Eurasia. Z3. (5-6" female rhizomes)

H. l. **'Cascade'** USDA 19124 [(Fuggle x Serebrianka-Fuggle S) x open pollinated] Oregon St U, 1972. Contains 4–7% alpha acids. Fragrantly aromatic hop, low bittering value. Very productive with large cones, ready to harvest mid-late August in central Maine. A customer wrote, "Cascade has gained impeccable renown as *the* charismatic hop in such unsurpassable ales as Anchor's Liberty Ale, Sierra Nevada's Pale Ale and McNeill's Firehouse Amber Ale. Nothing 'light' about these." Resistant to downy mildew.

L483A Cascade Hops, bundle of 3, $17.50

H. l. **'Nugget'** (USDA 65009 x USDA 63015M) which is 5/8 Brewers Gold, 1/8 Early Green, 1/16 Canterbury Golding, 1/32 Bavarian and 5/32 unknown. Corvallis, OR, 1970. High-yielding high-alpha bittering hops for medium to dark ales and lagers. Very popular in IPA. Heavy spicy herbal aroma. Compact cones ripen midseason, late August to early September in central Maine, about two weeks after Cascade. Resistant to downy mildew and verticillium wilt.

L484A Nugget Hops, bundle of 3, $17.50

H. l. **'Tettnanger'** Landrace variety from the Tettnang region of southern Germany. All-purpose hops with aromatic and bittering qualities notable in German-style lagers, pilsners and wheat ales. There's some dispute whether most Tettnanger grown in the U.S. is the true German strain or a similar variety from Switzerland. We are offering the true Tettnanger. Low alpha acid content of 3–6%.

L485A Tettnanger Hops, bundle of 3, $17.50

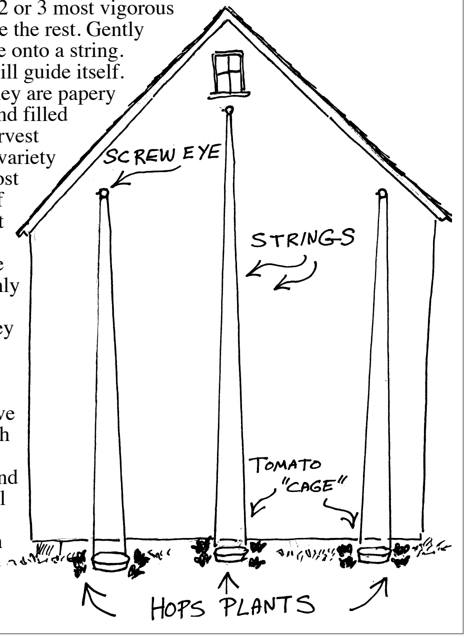
Hops

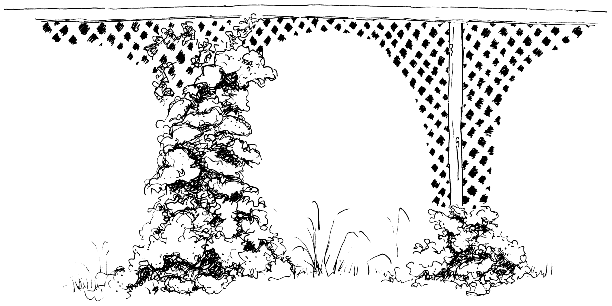
Refrigerate slightly moistened rhizomes in a plastic bag until planting. Hops prefer full sun and rich light well-drained soil with a pH of 6.5–8.0. As soon as soil can be worked in spring, till to create a weed-free area. Dig holes about 1' deep and at least 3' apart in rows. Add manure, compost and other slow-release organic fertilizers. Plant 2 rhizomes per hole, horizontally with the buds pointed up and cover with 1–2" of loose soil. The first year the hop plant requires frequent light watering and mulching.

Hops grow vertically, with lateral sidearms extending from the main vine and producing cones. Vines may grow up to 25' in a single season, and do best if they are trained onto strong twine 12–30' high, supported by a trellis, wire, pole, tree branch or south-facing building. When the young vines are about 1' long, select the 2 or 3 most vigorous vines per hill and remove the rest. Gently wrap the vines clockwise onto a string. Once trained, the vine will guide itself.

Pick the hops when they are papery but still slightly sticky and filled with yellow powder. Harvest dates will vary with the variety and climate. Because most hops are produced out of reach from the ground, it is safest to lower the vines in order to pick the hops. Dry hops thoroughly before use. Spread on screens in a dry attic, they will dry in a few weeks. Dried hops freeze well.

Cut the vines back to the ground after they have been killed by frost. Each spring apply a hearty topdressing of manure and compost. To help control vigor, prune roots by cutting a 2–3' circle with a shovel around the base of the plant in spring.

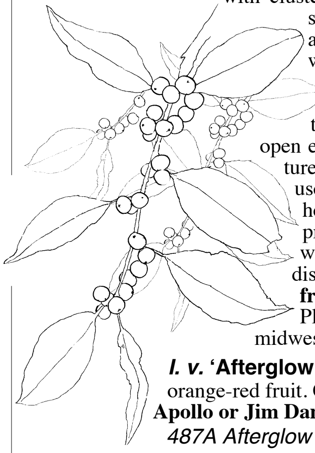




Hydrangea petiolaris **Climbing Hydrangea** Up to 50' or more. Amazing graceful climbing and twining woody vine. Even folks who hate hydrangeas could love this one. Flat umbels of fragrant ivory flowers bloom profusely in early summer. Dark green glossy foliage extends from the vine, giving a full shrubby appearance. Slow growing at first, but well worth the wait. Within a few years, it will cling and climb over brick, stone, tree or trellis. Early training by pinning up vines will help establish form and habit. Then prune as desired. Bright yellow fall color. Attractive exfoliating winter bark. Adaptable to most soil types and grows well in everything from full sun to full shade. Native to Japan and China. Z5. (well-rooted transplants)

486A Climbing Hydrangea, $18.00

Ilex verticillata **Winterberry** Also called **Black Alder**, **Fever Bush**, **Possumhaw**, **Swamp Holly** and more. Deciduous suckering medicinal holly with clusters of upright stems. Best known for profusions of bright red 3/8" berries which stand out after the leaves fall—they keep their color all winter, spectacular against the snow. A staple of the Maine landscape. Lustrous deep green leaves retain their color long after they're cut for decoration. Richly foliated, but open enough to display interesting branching structure. Excellent fall wildlife forage plant. Leaves used for tea and tonic, astringent bark used in herbal medicine. Tolerates dry conditions but prefers moist or wet acidic soil, even standing water. Sun or partial shade. No serious pests or diseases. **Male and female plants required for fruit**, which is produced on female plants. Plant males within 30' of females. Native from midwestern to eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown**. (1-3')



I. v. **'Afterglow'** 3-6' x 3-5' **Female.** Early bloomer with large orange-red fruit. Compact form with small glossy green leaves. **Apollo or Jim Dandy male required for pollination.**

487A Afterglow Female Winterberry, $14.50

I. v. **'Apollo'** 6-8' x same. **Male** selection to pollinate Afterglow, Winter Red or Sparkleberry. One will pollinate several females.

488A Apollo Male Winterberry, $14.50

I. v. **'Winter Red'** 9x8' **Female**. Considerably larger than Red Sprite. Darker green foliage. Winner of the 1995 Styer Award. **Southern Gentleman or Apollo male required for fruit.**

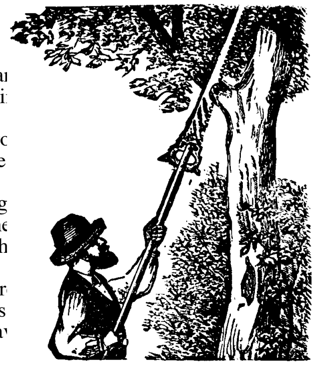
489A Winter Red Female Winterberry, $14.50

I. v. **'Southern Gentleman'** 6x6' **Male** selection to pollinate Winter Red or Sparkleberry. Don't be deceived by the name—it's hardy. One will pollinate several females.

490A Southern Gentleman Male Winterberry, $14.50

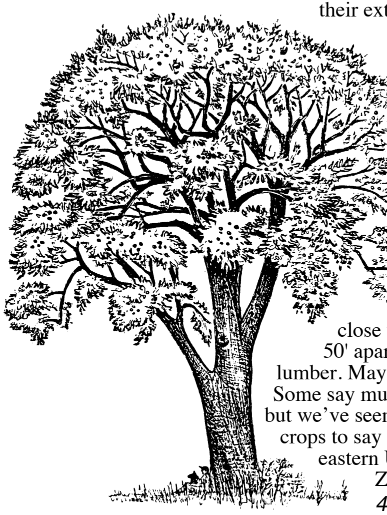
Prune Ornamental Shrubs, Trees and Berries for:

- Rejuvenation: older canes (three years and older) can be cut off at the ground line each year to encourage the growth of new canes.
- Health: remove broken, dead or diseased branches for neatness and vigor and to increase airflow and access to sunlight.
- Vitality: prune to encourage better blooms and fruit rather than heavy excessive vegetation. Many shrubs send up new vegetative growth from the terminal bud. Pruning the terminal bud redirects the pla energy back to some of the lateral floweri fruiting buds.
- Containment: certain varieties sucker fr remove these suckers unless you want the and form colonies.
- Shape: if you desire a tall tree with a hig crown, prune the lateral branches from the trunk and prevent formation of low crotch For a low stocky tree used in screens and windbreaks, cut back the top shoots to for side growth. Retain natural arching habits prevent the shrub from becoming top-hea by pruning branches after flowering.



***Juglans cinerea* Butternut** 40-60' x same. Very large impressive rounded shade tree produces edible nuts. Broad open crown, distinctive compound leaves on large arching branches that can hang nearly to the ground. Leafs out relatively late in the spring. Oblong edible nut was used by native people to make oil. Soft young nut can be pickled for eating. Yellow-orange dye from husks. Very nice cabinet wood referred to as White Walnut. Prefers moist rich deep soils but will grow in dry rocky conditions. Give it full sun and plenty of space to reach its full expression. Susceptible to butternut canker, which has devastated many wild specimens. Two old lovely trees are thriving in Belfast, ME. Self-fertile but plant two for more abundant crops. Native New Brunswick to Georgia. Z3. (2-4')

493A Butternut, $16.50



***J. nigra* Black Walnut Seedlings** 70-90' A spectacular shade tree with a magnificent open rounded crown of massive limbs with dark green leaves. Harder to crack than commercial English walnuts but worth the effort for their extraordinarily distinct sweet earthy rich flavor. Eat them chopped on fresh salads, or with dark chocolate while sipping bourbon. Highly valued cabinet and veneer wood. Husks, leaves and roots all have anti-fungal properties. Husks also yield a rich brown dye. Deep taproot. Prefers moist well-drained soils, pH 6–7. Roots give off a compound called juglone that inhibits competing plants, so don't plant one too close to your garden. Space trees about 50' apart for nut production, 20' apart for lumber. May begin to bear fruit in 5–10 years. Some say multiple trees needed for pollination but we've seen enough solo trees with large nut crops to say that you only need one. Native to eastern U.S. though not quite into Maine. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

495A Black Walnut, $16.50

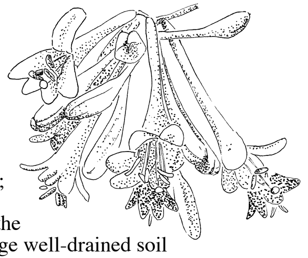
***J. regia* 'Carpathian' Walnut Seedlings** 30-50' with 40' spread. Species sometimes called **English Walnut** or **Persian Walnut**. Very large open somewhat vase-shaped fast-growing tree with those edible nuts you buy in the store. This is also the walnut traditionally used in Europe for salad oil. Has the same alternate pinnately compound foliage as black walnut but each glossy blue-green leaf is larger and more rounded, almost tropical looking, and the shell is a bit easier to crack. Because our trees are seedlings, nut quality will be variable. Prefers light deep dry loamy soil. Bears in 5–7 years. Considered self-fertile, but plant two for more abundant crops. In the 1930s, this cultivar was brought to North America from the Carpathian Mountains in Poland where it was reputed to bear heavy crops even after –40° winters. Native to southeastern Europe, east to China. Z4 or maybe Z3. (1-3')

496A Carpathian Walnut, $16.50

***Lindera benzoin* Spicebush** 6-12' x 8-12' Large rounded multi-stemmed native shrub suited to naturalizing in moist or wet areas, singly or in groups. Soft-yellow flowers early in spring followed by small clusters of glossy red berries by mid to late summer. Blue-green foliage turns golden yellow in fall. Edible berries and medicinal twigs and bark. Scratch the berries, foliage or stems and you'll know how it got its name: all three have a delicious lemony spicy scent and can be used as a native alternative to allspice. Leaves, twigs and fruit used in teas. Attracts bees, birds and butterflies. Prefers moist well-drained neutral or slightly acidic soils. Often found in full or partial shade, but at its showiest in full sun. Be patient with the plants. We thought one had died a few years ago and dug it up, only to find that the roots were alive and ready to go. These are unsexed seedlings: **male and female plants required for fruit** so plant several for best results. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. (1-3')

497A Spicebush, $15.00

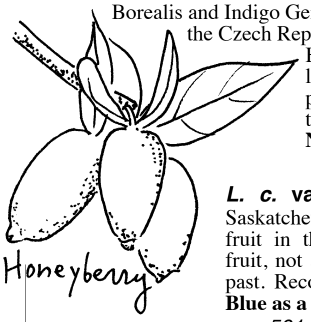
497B Spicebush, bundle of 5, $65.00



***Lonicera* x *brownii* Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle**
10-20' (*L. sempervirens* x *L. hirsuta*)
Tall climbing honeysuckle developed by FL Skinner in Manitoba. Jazzy whimsical clusters of $1^{1}/_{2}$" scarlet-orange tubular flowers bloom profusely and tirelessly from early summer into late fall. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies. Striking blue-green foliage on red stems. Great for fence or arbor. Easy to grow; not invasive; generally free of insects and diseases. Flowers the first year. Considered one of the hardiest vining honeysuckles. Likes average well-drained soil and full sun. Species native to North America. Z3. (well-rooted transplants)

499A Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle, $14.50

***L. caerulea* Honeyberry** Also called **Haskap** or **Edible Honeysuckle**. Our Canadian neighbors are crazy about haskaps, ramping up commercial u-pick orchards, exporting fruit to Japan, and making fun treats like honeyberry jam and ice cream. Medium-sized fruiting shrub is somewhat similar in bush and berry to our native highbush blueberry. Small dark blue oval fruit is very high in antioxidants and ripens in June before the strawberries. Extensive breeding has led to improved flavor and larger fruit, which tastes like a mix between a raspberry and a blueberry. In the Japanese Ainu language, *haskap* means 'lots of little things on top of the branches.' Productive plants bear at a young age with proper pollination. Ten pounds of fruit per plant is possible after a few years. Will do well in most soils with a wide pH range (5.0–8.5). Extremely hardy. Low maintenance and disease free, though leaves may show sign of sunburn as season progresses. Native to Siberia and the Kuril Islands. Note pollination requirements below. Z2. **ME Grown.** (1-3')



***L. c.* var. *kamtschatica* 'Berry Blue'** 6-8' Recommended pollinator for Borealis and Indigo Gem, will pollinate up to 8 plants. Introduced from the Czech Republic, Berry Blue has a different parentage from Borealis and Indigo Gem, which helps with pollination. Tart, but not too tart, the berries are plentiful, though smaller and less tasty than the types it pollinates. Good fresh or processed. **Needs another honeyberry as a pollinator.**

500A Berry Blue Honeyberry, $20.00

***L. c.* var. *edulis* 'Borealis'** 4-6' x same. U of Saskatchewan intro, 2007. The best-tasting and largest fruit in the Saskatchewan breeding program. Delicate fruit, not as firm as Tundra, which we've offered in the past. Recommended for home gardeners. **Needs Berry Blue as a pollinator.**

501A Borealis Honeyberry, $20.00

***L. c.* var. *e.* 'Indigo Gem'** 4-6' x same. U of Saskatchewan, 2007. Same parentage as Tundra and Borealis. Dr. Bob Bors, lead scientist of the University of Saskatchewan's honeyberry breeding program, considers it the preferred variety for fresh eating. Sweet and slightly tangy with a chewier texture than the other varieties. Leaves susceptible to mildew and sunburn but only after the plant has already set fruit, so causes no damage. **Needs Berry Blue as a pollinator.**

502A Indigo Gem Honeyberry, $20.00

***L. involucrata* Twinberry** 6-10' x same. Deciduous shrub native to woodlands and meadows of western U.S. and most of Canada. Pairs of tubular 1" yellow flowers extend from leaf axils attracting butterflies and hummingbirds. As the flowers ripen to twin $^{1}/_{4}$" blue-black berries, the bracts enclosing them turn inside out exposing a pinkish-red interior making berries extra appealing to passing birds. Unique native could be quite ornamental in the right spot and also valuable for erosion control. While there are many traditional medicinal uses for bark and leaves, the berries are mildly toxic to humans and only edible for wildlife. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

503A Twinberry, $14.25

503B Twinberry, bundle of 5, $60.00

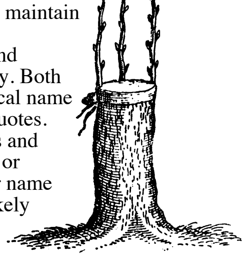
Cultivars and varieties

Cultivar is short for 'cultivated variety.' A **cultivar** is a plant that has been bred; it does not occur naturally in the wild.

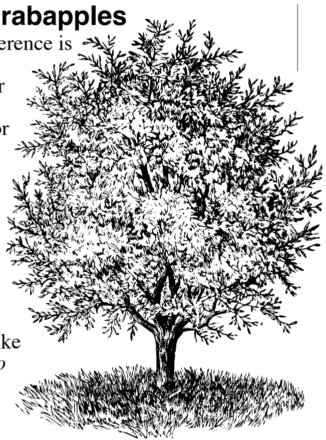
A **Variety** is a plant that occurs naturally in the wild and is chosen for commercial propagation to maintain its genetic characteristics.

In the nursery trade, the terms 'cultivar' and 'variety' are mistakenly used interchangeably. Both cultivar and variety names follow the botanical name (*Genus species*) and are enclosed in single quotes.

In the tree and shrub world, most cultivars and varieties are propagated clonally by cuttings or grafting. When there is no variety or cultivar name after the botanical name, the plant is most likely grown from seed. We often refer to these as "the species" of a plant, or as seedlings.



Malus Flowering and Culinary Crabapples



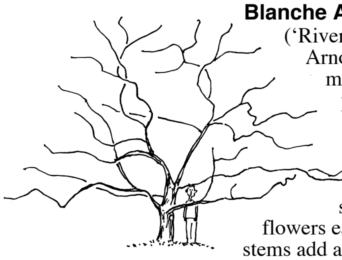
are really just apples in disguise. The only difference is the smaller fruit size. We define a crab as any apple less than 2" in diameter. Some crabs bear edible or culinary fruit. Some have persistent wildlife fruit that hangs on the tree for weeks or even months. Others have hardly any fruit at all. The flowers, tree form and even the shape of the leaves can vary subtly or profoundly. Most are magnificent in bloom and are often ornamental year round, especially in winter when the leaves drop and the trees show off their interesting forms. Although crabs prefer full sun and deep well-drained soils of 5.5–6.5 pH, they are quite forgiving and will thrive in many locations with a little TLC. They don't like to be drowned or starved for water, and they *do* need to be protected from borers, mice and deer. See instructions on pages 6 and 7.

Most crabapples require little or no pruning except when a branch is broken or you feel compelled to shape your tree in one way or another. We like to encourage each tree to assume its own unique form. (3-6')

All crabapple trees need a second variety for pollination, but any apple or crabapple blooming at the same time, within $^1/_4$ mile, will probably do.

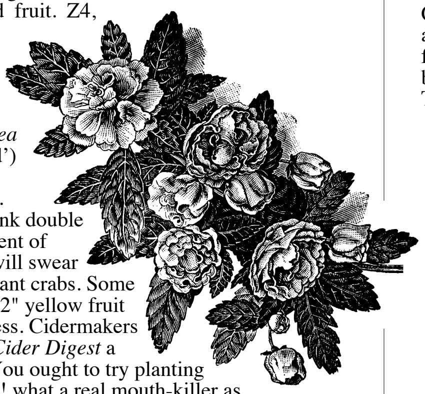
Fedco Crabapple Collection An assortment of five crabapples selected by Fedco's John Bunker. Most will be from this year's catalog but a few rare surprises may be included.

505A Crabapple Collection, bundle of 5, $130.00



Blanche Ames 25x25' *M. spectabilis* AA-6639 ('Riversii' x open pollinated) Karl Sax intro, Arnold Arboretum, 1947. Wide-spreading mounded semi-weeping form, open and picturesque. A beautifully shaped tree with an interesting curvy branch structure you can see right through. Magnificent in bloom. Pale apricot-pink buds open to small white slightly cupped long-stemmed starlike flowers each with 11–16 petals. The red flower stems add a reddish cast to the tree in bloom. The whole tree appears draped with foliage and flowers like a million stars in a deep green sky. Small yellow-gold fruit. Z4, perhaps Z3. **ME Grown**.

506A Blanche Ames Crabapple, $29.00



Brandywine 20x20' *M. ioensis* 'Plena' Klehm's No. 8 (*M.* x *purpurea* 'Lemoinei' x *M.* 'Klehm's Improved') Incredibly beautiful fragrant flowers followed by unbelievably bitter fruit. Deep red buds open to small deep pink double rose-like blossoms. Put an arrangement of these flowers in a vase, and people will swear they are roses. One of *the* most fragrant crabs. Some growers will hate the unattractive 1–2" yellow fruit that drops in the fall and makes a mess. Cidermakers will love it. Very high in tannin. In *Cider Digest* a few years ago, one grower wrote, "You ought to try planting a crab called 'Brandywine'. WOW!!! what a real mouth-killer as far as tannin goes….Couldn't tell you the acidity because my tongue had gone dead." Loosely rounded tree. Blooms late. Z4. **ME Grown**.

507C Brandywine Crabapple on M111, $29.00

Cherry Crab 30x30' *M.* x *robusta* (*M. baccata* x *M. prunifolia*) Probably New England before 1867. There is some confusion about whether Cherry Crab is a specific variety or a group of similar hybrids. This particular one abundantly bears 1" yellow fruit with an orangey-red blush in early fall. The fruit is juicy, crisp, somewhat tart and astringent. Not for fresh eating, but useful for jellies and cider. White bloom. Will grow to be a large tree with an upright spreading habit. For the northern apple historian, Cherry Crab is revered as the possible parent of Wealthy, one of the most important apples of the past 200 years. Z3. **ME Grown**.

508C Cherry Crab on M111, $29.00

David Crab 12x12' Arie den Boer intro, 1957. Naturally small tree with a compact rounded open form recommended for small spaces. Light pink buds and single white blooms. Bright red showy $^1/_2$" persistent fruit. Outstanding in bloom and in fruit. Light green glossy foliage. Excellent disease resistance. On nearly every list of recommended crabs. Arie den Boer, author of the classic 1959 book *Ornamental Crabapples,* could be considered the "inventor" of the modern crabapple. Largely through his efforts, the crab became the popular ornamental it is today. The Arie den Boer Arboretum in Des Moines, IA, includes one of the largest collections of crabapples in the world. Z4. **ME Grown**.

509C David Crabapple on M111, $29.00

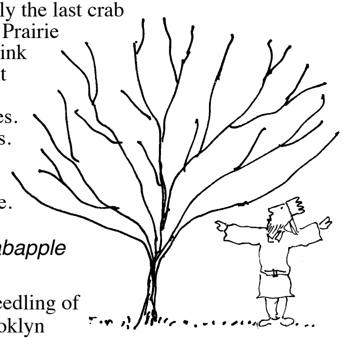
Dolgo 25x30' From seed collected by NE Hansen of *M.* x *robusta* in 1897 at the Imperial Botanical Gardens, St. Petersburg, Russia. (*Dolgo* means 'long' in Russian.) Introduced in the U.S. in 1917. *The* classic culinary crab still found in old Maine backyards. Apricot-pink buds, large fragrant 2" pure white single flowers bloom early. Beautiful purple-red $1^1/_2$" teardrop-shaped fruit makes flavorful clear ruby-red jelly. In recent years the aromatic very sweet, very acidic fruit has found favor with cidermakers. Also useful for canning, pickling and delicious sauce. Vigorous large blocky upright spreading tree consistently yields abundant summer crops. Dependable pollinator for all apples. Very hardy. Z2.

510A Dolgo Crabapple, $29.00

510C Dolgo Crabapple on M111, $29.00 **ME Grown**.

Finley's Everlasting 25x20' Fedco intro, Palermo, ME, 2016. One of the first crabs to flower each spring, though not quite as early as Trailman and Redfield. Blooms pure vibrant dazzling white well before any foliage appears. Small persistent *everlasting* red fruit hangs well into winter. Medium-large upright slightly rounded form. Always on the lookout for beautiful trees in bloom, we discovered this one sprouting in a old stone wall alongside the discontinued Finley Lane in Palermo, just a hundred yards from a massive old lilac jungle and one of the oldest apple trees in central Maine. Z4. **ME Grown**.

512C Finley's Everlasting Crabapple on M111, $29.00



Prince Georges 15x15' (*M. ioensis* x *M. coronaria* var. *angustifolia*) Arnold Arboretum, MA, 1943. Usually the last crab to bloom each spring, even later than Prairie Rose. Always worth the wait. Deep pink buds and light yellowish pink fragrant flowers, each with up to an amazing 50 petals, look—and smell—like roses. Small open tree suited to small spaces. Medium-green narrow palmate foliage reminiscent of paperbark maple. No fruit. Virtually disease-free. Z4. **ME Grown**.

513C Prince Georges Crabapple on M111, $29.00

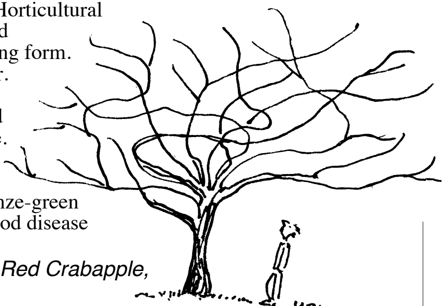
Red Jade 12-15' x 15-20' Chance seedling of *M. floribunda* 'Exzellenz Thiel', Brooklyn Botanic Garden, NY, 1953. Magnificent, fully weeping, dense and finely branched. The combination of yellow-green foliage, pink buds and single white (actually faint pink) blossoms has a magical, almost surreal effect. Changes day after day as more buds open and the greens and pinks merge and soften to white. Small red fruit popular with birds. Glossy vibrant green foliage. Using long stakes and judicious pruning, we've trained our tree to begin weeping at 7'. The arching branches rise to 10' and hang to the grass. The spread is about 12'. Z4. **ME Grown**.

514A Red Jade Crabapple, $29.00

Our attitude towards plants is a singularly narrow one. If we see any immediate utility in a plant we foster it. If for any reason we find its presence undesirable or merely a matter of indifference, we may condemn it to destruction forthwith.

–Rachel Carson

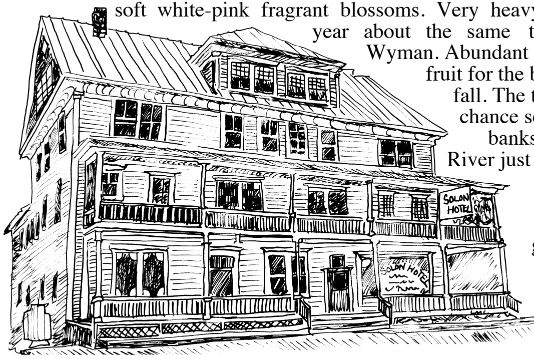
Ross's Double Red 12x16' (Van Eseltine x [*M.* x *purpurea* 'Lemoinei']) Henry Ross intro, Gardenview Horticultural Park, Strongsville, OH. Rounded spreading mounded semi-weeping form. Never that tall and always wider. Bright red buds followed by multiple shades of rose-pink-red double flowers. Hence the name. Blooms annually and late in the season though not nearly as late as Prince Georges. Reddish bronze-green foliage. No fruit to speak of. Good disease resistance. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



515A Ross's Double Red Crabapple, $29.00

Sargent Crabapple, Mt. Auburn strain 8-10' x 20-30' *M. sargentii* Arnold Arboretum, 1892. Seed collected in Hokkaido, Japan, by one of America's most famous horticulturists, CS Sargent. A species rather than a variety, many of the Sargents have been started from seed: hence the variability. This one comes from the front entrance of the Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA. Densely and horizontally branched from the base with no tendency to develop a central leader. Barely 8' tall and over 30' wide, a delightful jumble of twists and curves—like a dozen connected pretzels trying to out-pretzel each other. Pink buds and profuse pure-white fragrant single flowers seem to bloom forever. Very small dark red-purple persistent fruit. Disease resistant. Z4. **ME Grown.**

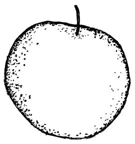
516C Sargent Crabapple on M111, $29.00



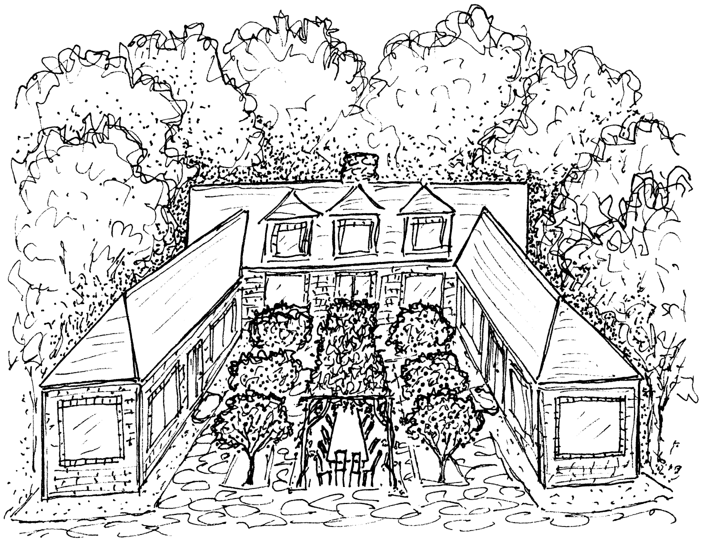
Solon Hotel 25x25' Ed Brown intro, Solon, ME. Deep red-pink buds and soft white-pink fragrant blossoms. Very heavy bloomer every year about the same time as Donald Wyman. Abundant crop of 1" yellow fruit for the birds drops in late fall. The tree appeared as a chance seedling above the banks of the Kennebec River just across Route 201 from the Solon Hotel, a local Somerset County gathering spot for generations. The Hotel, as it's locally called, dates back to when travel was slower, TV and internet were science fiction, and every town in Maine had a hotel. Z3 or 4. **ME Grown.**

517C Solon Hotel Crabapple on M111, $29.00

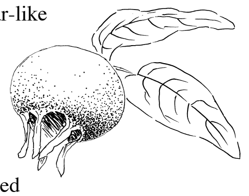
Waterville Crab 15x15' A small rounded tree loaded each fall with 1½" deep maroon fruit suitable for wildlife, jelly and cider. Discovered thriving out beyond the Waterville Post Office parking lot a few years ago by Jack Kertesz. For decades, Jack has been Maine's #1 fruit explorer. His enthusiasm is infectious and his dedication is inspirational. His notes on the Waterville crab read, "The young tree receives no care… sets fruit in long clusters (spur type)… most fruit is cosmetically perfect… strong flavor." Another lost gem discovered in the landscape. Possibly a named variety, but for now we'll call it the Waterville Crab. Z4 or maybe Z3. **ME Grown.**



518C Waterville Crab on M111, $29.00

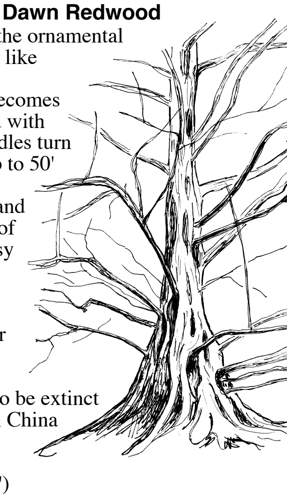


***Mespilus germanica* 'Breda Giant' Medlar** 12-20' Introduced in the Netherlands. Cinnamon-flavored spicy pear-like fruit shaped like a large rose hip, just under 2" in diameter. Good eating when ripe, thin-skinned with applesauce-like texture. Fruit cultivated in Europe and England since the Middle Ages or earlier, and still considered a culinary delight. One source recommends roasting in butter with citrus slices. Also makes good jelly, paste, chutney and "cheese." Fruit is hard when harvested after the first hard frost and must be bletted—allowed to ripen for several weeks in a cool place. Tastes best just before it turns mushy. 1–2" white flowers blushed with pink bloom May to June. Shiny green waxy leaves, a nice addition to the landscape. Begins bearing fruit 2–3 years after planting. One tree could bear 20 lbs of fruit once established. Plant in well-drained fertile soil, 9–10' from other trees. Full sun. Pest and disease free. Native to southeast Europe and Iran. Self-fertile. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (2-4')



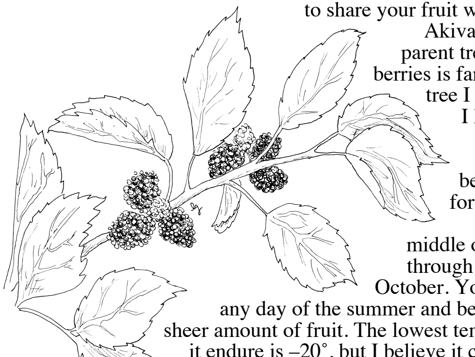
524A Breda Giant Medlar, $29.00

***Metasequoia glyptostroboides* Dawn Redwood** 100' One of the most spectacular of the ornamental trees. The wide irregular trunk looks like something out of a fairy tale with its iridescent golden-orange bark that becomes deeply grooved, hollowed and fluted with age. The bright green deciduous needles turn orange in the fall. Grows quickly, up to 50' in 15–20 years, with many small-diameter horizontal branches and a uniform conical habit. Give it lots of space to grow! Highly adaptable, easy to transplant. Prefers moist deep well-drained slightly acid soil in full sun. Will tolerate wet or dry sites. Pollution resistant; good specimen or street tree, rarely needs pruning. Fossils dating back 50 million years have been found in Japan. Thought to be extinct until it was "rediscovered" in central China in 1941. Resembles California redwoods only vaguely. Native to China and Japan. Z4. **ME Grown.** (1-3')



525A Dawn Redwood, $15.00

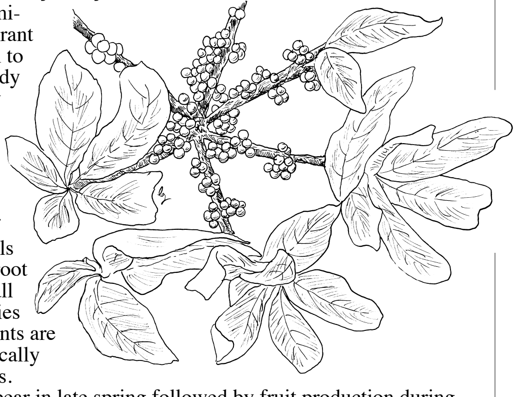
***Morus rubra* 'Twisted Tree' Mulberry** 40-70' x 40-50' Tall open irregular tree with large juicy 1" blackberry-like fruit. Fruit is green turning red then dark purple-black. Sweet when ripe and suitable for fresh eating, pies, fruit leathers, smoothies, etc. Be prepared to share your fruit with the birds. Grower Akiva Silver's notes on the parent tree: "The flavor of the berries is far superior to any wild tree I have ever tasted (and I have sampled a lot of wild mulberries wherever I go). I've been watching this tree for several years now. It begins fruiting in the middle of June and continues through September into early October. You can stop at the tree any day of the summer and be overwhelmed by the sheer amount of fruit. The lowest temperature I have seen it endure is –20°, but I believe it can tolerate more as it must be at least 40 years old." Prefers plenty of room, rich moist soils and full sun. Self-fruitful grafted cultivar, so only one plant is required for fruit. Native to eastern and central U.S. *Limited supply; order early.* Z4-5. (1-3')



526A Twisted Tree Mulberry, $29.00

Weed Bouquets Weed flowers and foliage make some of my favorite floral arrangements. The other day I went to a wedding and needed a quick bouquet. I could have brought sunflowers, zinnias, lilies or hydrangeas, but I wanted something a little more unique, something you couldn't find in a florist shop. After a quick walk in an abandoned field and along the gravel driveway, I had a stunning arrangement that wowed the bride. Here are a handful of some of my favorite wild beauties:

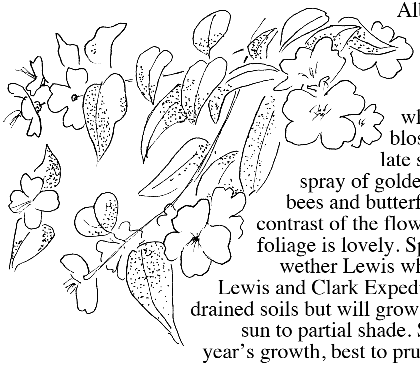
Blue-eyed Grass
Dogbane
Goldenrod
Mullein
Queen Anne's Lace
Deptford Pink
Fleabane
Meadowsweet
Oxeye Daisy
Staghorn Sumac



Myrica pensylvanica **Bayberry** 5-10' x same. Rounded deciduous semi-evergreen very salt-tolerant shrub thrives in full sun to partial shade and in sandy poor soils to heavy clay soils. A common sight on Maine's coastal islands. Rubbing the glossy deep green leaves between your fingers produces one of the most delicious smells in the world. Leaf and root teas are medicinal. Small greyish-blue waxy berries produced on female plants are highly aromatic, historically used for making candles. Non-showy flowers appear in late spring followed by fruit production during summer into late fall. Plants feed numerous wildlife species and are especially craved by swallows. Excellent in masses or hedges, tends to sucker. Fixes nitrogen. Tends toward being dioecious: **male and female plants required for good fruit development**. We're offering unsexed plants; plant several if you desire fruit. Native to eastern U.S. Z2. (1-3')

527A Bayberry, $14.50

527B Bayberry, bundle of 5, $65.00



Philadelphus lewisii **'Blizzard' Mockorange** 3-10' x 4-6' COPF intro, Alberta, Canada. Medium-sized coarse upright loosely arching ornamental blooming shrub. A "blizzard" of sweet citrusy fragrance from pure-white slightly cupped 4-petaled blossoms for up to four weeks in late spring, after the lilacs fade. A spray of golden yellow anthers attractive to bees and butterflies accents each flower. The contrast of the flowers and deep dark blue-green foliage is lovely. Species was named after Meriwether Lewis who noted it in 1806 during the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Prefers moist rich well-drained soils but will grow well in most conditions. Full sun to partial shade. Since blossoms form on prior year's growth, best to prune after flowering. Similar to old-fashioned European *P. coronarius*, but this one is native to North America. William Cullina calls it "our most ornamental Philadelphus species." Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

530A Blizzard Mockorange, $14.25

A few pruning guidelines:

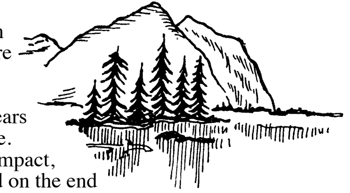
- **Summer-Flowering Shrubs** should be pruned in late winter or early spring, before the new wood begins to grow. These shrubs blossom on the new wood they produce in the spring.
- **Spring-Flowering Shrubs** form flower buds in the summer, after they are finished blooming. Prune them immediately after their bloom is over. If you wait and prune them in the winter or following spring, you will likely remove many flowering buds.
- A common error is to prune or shear shrubs straight across the top. This encourages top-growth and the lower part of the shrub becomes woody and unsightly with less foliage. Proper pruning promotes growth at the base of the shrub.
- Observe your plants and see what they need. Some trees and shrubs benefit from aggressive pruning each year and might even respond well to being cut all the way back to the ground; others will respond by delaying fruit or blossom. Some plants thrive with little or no pruning.
- Overgrown shrubs with little foliage near the base may be rejuvenated by cutting canes down to the ground in early March, even though early blooms may be sacrificed that year. They will send forth new shoots in late spring and will be bushy with foliage clear to the ground. Pinch off tops when the desired height is attained. It usually takes two to three years to rejuvenate shrubs and hedges completely.

Conifers tolerate a wide range of soil conditions, but prefer a pH between 5.5–6.5. If you are planting in dry or well-drained areas, dip tree roots in Agri-gel solution before planting to protect roots from drying out. Do not use Agri-gel in heavy clay soils or wet areas. Do not soak conifers overnight; a good dipping is sufficient.

Before planting, prune off $^{1}/_{3}$ of the roots. Dig a small hole or make an incision with a spade or planting bar and slip the tree in to the level it grew in the nursery, never below. Fan the roots out; do not wind them around in the hole. It is much better to prune the roots than to crowd them in the hole. Water well and pack the earth down with your feet to remove air pockets.

Young conifers need $^{3}/_{4}$–1" of rain per week. Periodic deep waterings are far more beneficial than frequent sprinklings. No fertilization is necessary in the first year. In later years you may fertilize around the drip line.

To make evergreens dense and compact, remove central leader and center bud on the end of each side branch.

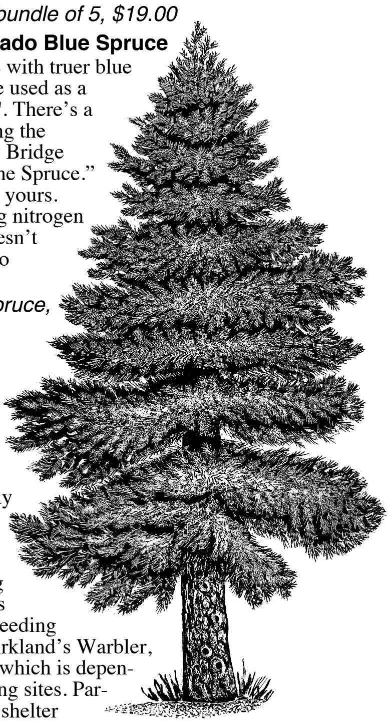


Picea abies **Norway Spruce** 80' Fast-growing wide-spreading upright picturesque tree with graceful long pendulous branches that often reach the ground. Largest of the spruces. If you go to the Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA, don't miss the ancient Norway Spruce just inside the front gate. Several of its massive drooping branches have rooted and turned into secondary trunks. It is truly amazing. Orange-brown scaly bark. Excellent lumber. Showy 4–6" cones. Bright green foliage. Prefers loam but does better than other spruces in poorer soils. Native to northern Europe. Z2. (9-18")

531A Norway Spruce, bundle of 5, $19.00

P. pungens **var. *glauca*** **Colorado Blue Spruce** 30-60' Very popular specimen tree with truer blue foliage than other varieties. Can be used as a screen, as it is fast growing after 3'. There's a beautiful specimen on a lawn facing the Kennebec River near the Hinckley Bridge that owners have dubbed "Bruce the Spruce." So lovely you might want to name yours. Does not like wet soil. Extra spring nitrogen will improve blue color, which doesn't appear for first few years. Native to western U.S. Z2. (9-18")

532A Colorado Blue Spruce, bundle of 5, $19.00



Blue Spruce

Pinus banksiana **Jack Pine** 50-60' Northernmost growing of all the American pines. Commonly seen in downeast and northern Maine. Branches are spreading and irregular, particularly along the windy coast. Trunks grow to 8–10" diameter and become deeply plated with age. Cones develop early on, remaining attached to branches up to 15 years unless exposed to fire. Provides breeding ground for rare and endangered Kirkland's Warbler, also known as Jack Pine Warbler, which is dependent on the younger trees for nesting sites. Particularly useful in windbreaks and shelter belts. Grows in sandy shallow acidic soils. Z2. (9-18")

533A Jack Pine, bundle of 5, $19.00

P. strobus **Eastern White Pine** 100' or more. The largest northeastern conifer. Magnificent and massive when mature. Smooth greyish-green bark becomes thick, rough and deeply furrowed with age. A cup of pine needle tea has more vitamin C than a cup of orange juice; Native Americans showed early white explorers how to brew it and stave off scurvy. The resin has numerous practical and medicinal applications. Excellent wood with a thousand uses. When grown in abandoned fields, it develops huge curving branches. Grown in the forest it will typically be "clear" for the first 30–80'. Planted thick and sheared, it makes a beautiful hedge that won't drop its lower branches. Likes ordinary to poor—even sandy—soil. Shade tolerant, but does not like salt or roadsides. Fast growing. Native eastern U.S. Grown in Maine. Z3. **ME Grown.** (9-18")

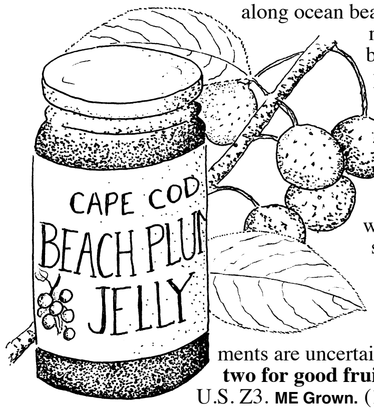
534A Eastern White Pine, bundle of 5, $19.00

Agri-gel A hydrogel formulation that absorbs and holds water. The swollen crystals adhere to plant roots, reducing transplant shock. Safe, nontoxic, easy to use. Useful for garden seedlings as well as woody plants. Highly recommended for raspberries and conifers. Half-ounce packet mixed with 1 to 3 gallons of water will treat up to 100 cane plants, or 50 trees and shrubs. *Not allowed for organic certification.* $^{1}/_{2}$ oz.

L616A Agrigel, $3.00

***Prunus* x *kerrasis* 'Carmine Jewel' Dwarf Sour Cherry** About 6-7' x same. Midsummer. University of Saskatchewan intro, 1999. New crosses between sour and Mongolian cherries are causing a great deal of excitement in fruit-growing circles. Delicious dark purple fruits with purple flesh and small pits are approximately the size of small sour cherries and ripen in early July. Good for both fresh eating and processing. Some growers have reported getting 20–30 lbs per bush after 3–5 years. In our trials we saw fruit after only three years and have found Carmine to be the best-suited for our climate. Compact plant size keeps the fruit within reach and makes it far easier to net against birds than a standard cherry tree. Prefers full sun and decent soil with a pH of about 6.5. Pamper them with mineral amendments and compost. Self-pollinating. Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

536A Carmine Jewel, $21.00



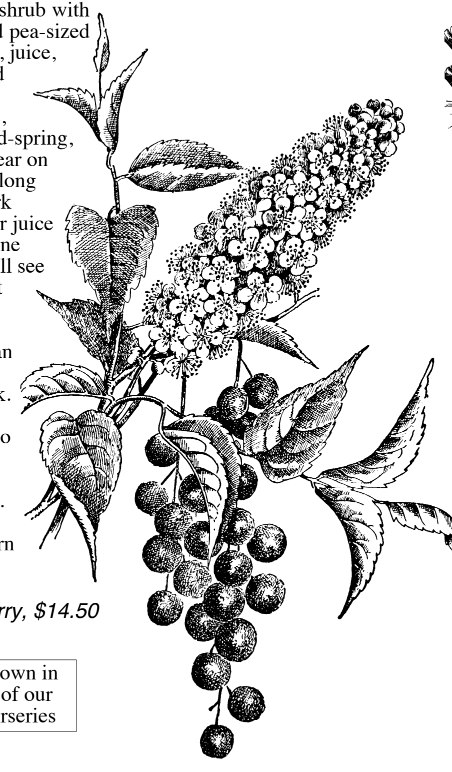
***P. maritima* Beach Plum** 6' x 5-6' Rounded dense suckering shrub found along ocean beaches, New Brunswick to the Carolinas. In spring, beautiful showy white blooms cover the dark branches. Purplish-red $^{1}/_{2}$–1" fruit in late summer. Excellent jams, sauces and especially jelly. Although typically found growing naturally in poor sandy soils, the plants thrive in well-drained fertile soils with a pH of 6–6.5. Additional fertilization will further increase productivity. We suggest an annual 5-gallon bucket or two of compost per plant. Prune to maintain an open center for good light penetration. Plant about 5' apart. Although pollination requirements are uncertain, **we recommend planting at least two for good fruiting**. Salt tolerant! Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

537A Beach Plum, $14.50

537B Beach Plum, bundle of 5, $65.00

***P. tomentosa* Nanking Cherry** 6-10' x same. Broad dense highly ornamental fruiting shrub, becoming open and attractively irregular. One of the earliest flowering fruits every spring. Pink buds open to masses of fragrant white $^{3}/_{4}$" flowers. Deeply veined light green foliage with very fine fuzz (tomentum) lining each vein underneath. Excellent hedge plant: an edible landscape crop that produces a lot of fruit that actually *is* edible! Scarlet $^{1}/_{2}$" fruit in early summer ranges in flavor from mild to tart and in color from scarlet to clear red to pink and sometimes even white. Eat fresh or frozen. Excellent jelly and fruit leather. Said to make a good pie but pitting would require quite a bit of work. Covering plants with netting will deter birds from robbing your crop. Prefers full sun in well-drained soil. **Plant two or more for pollination.** Native to China and Japan. Z2. (1-3')

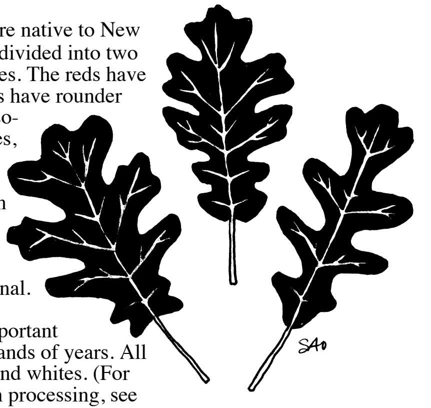
539A Nanking Cherry, $14.50



***P. virginiana* Chokecherry** 20-30' x 18-25' Small suckering understory tree or edge-of-the-woods shrub with attractive densely clustered pea-sized berries used to make sauce, juice, pie, jam, amazing wine and Benji's grandmother's favorite jelly. Attracts bees, birds and butterflies. In mid-spring, fragrant white flowers appear on dangling racemes up to 6" long followed by crimson to dark purple berries. Cook, dry or juice the astringent fruit. Taste one fresh off the bush and you'll see how it got its name. Do not eat the poisonous seeds. Native Americans dried chokecherries for pemmican and made dyes and medicinal tea from the bark. Prefers dry to medium well-drained soil, full sun to partial shade. Will form colonies. Nice as a hedge, great for bank stabilization. Self-fertile. Susceptible to black knot. Native to eastern North America. Z2. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

540A Chokecherry, $14.50

ME Grown = grown in
Maine at one of our
small local nurseries



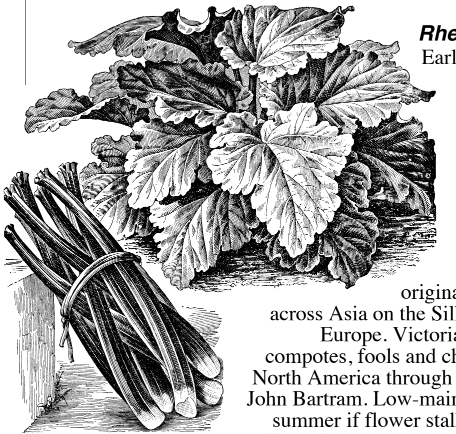
***Quercus* Oak** Many oaks are native to New England. They are generally divided into two groups: the reds and the whites. The reds have pointier leaves and the whites have rounder ones. Most of them make absolutely breathtaking shade trees, having the capacity to provide a major presence in almost any landscape. All can be categorized as both edible and medicinal. The strongly astringent inner bark, foliage and acorn caps are all medicinal. Most importantly however, acorns were an extremely important human food source for thousands of years. All acorns are edible, both reds and whites. (For detailed instructions on acorn processing, see Samuel Thayer's book, *Nature's Garden*.) Oaks are monoecious so you need only one to get fruit.

***Q. alba* White Oak** 60-80' with same spread. Spectacular broad irregularly rounded oak with low-lying branches that stretch out horizontally from the trunk, sometimes as much as 50'. Some extremely fine specimens in Maine grow on Swan Island in the Kennebec River right off Richmond. Bark is finely grooved and etched. Wood is valued for lumber and firewood. Once common along the Maine coast, it was almost entirely stripped for boat-building lumber over a century ago. Soil adaptable though it prefers deep moist well-drained acid conditions. Thrives in locations where leaves can be left at the base; avoid soil compaction, even foot traffic. Disease and insect resistant, drought tolerant. Slow growing and extremely long-lived. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

541A White Oak, $15.50

***Q. coccinea* Scarlet Oak** 30-50' Important canopy species of Appalachian mountains and highland terrain of oak-heath forests from Southern Maine to Alabama. Rare in Maine, the northernmost limit of its range, where its few existing populations are endangered from development and logging. Considered part of the Red Oak group due to bristle tips on leaves and 2-year maturation of acorns. Leaves have 7–9 lobes and wide sinuses. Bright red foliage in fall. Most similar to black oak. Wood is strong and heavy though coarsely grained. Requires dry acidic soil—intolerant of alkaline soils. Z5. (2-4')

542A Scarlet Oak, $15.50



***Rheum rhabarbarum* Rhubarb** Early Summer. Famous for pie and wine, but also good in sauce, bread, juice, soup or cooked with meat and fish. Rhubarb's clumps of juicy acid leaf stalks were once a staple food. The root is a toning purgative herb traditionally used every spring for thousands of years. There are dozens if not hundreds of rhubarb varieties. May have originated in Siberia and been carried across Asia on the Silk Road to Turkey and then into Europe. Victorian cookbooks included rhubarb compotes, fools and charlottes. Eventually brought to North America through the efforts of Ben Franklin and John Bartram. Low-maintenance, will continue through summer if flower stalks are removed and new leaves allowed to grow. Water during dry spells for extended season. Plant crowns 2–4' apart in rows 3–4' apart. Add compost. Leaves are *not* edible. Z3. **ME Grown.** (single 1-yr crowns)

***R. r.* 'Glaskins Perpetual'** Long juicy vigorous stalks are green with blushes of red. Leaves are more pleated than ruffled. Acidity remains low for tasty late-season harvests, hence the name. First listed in England in 1920.

L543A Glaskins Perpetual Rhubarb Seedlings, $11.50

***R. r.* 'Victoria' Rhubarb** Summer. Joseph Myatt intro, Manor Farm, Deptford, England, 1837. Heirloom variety with thick bright red tender citrusy tart stalks. Named to honor the Queen. Some say it was this variety that popularized rhubarb in both the U.K. and the States.

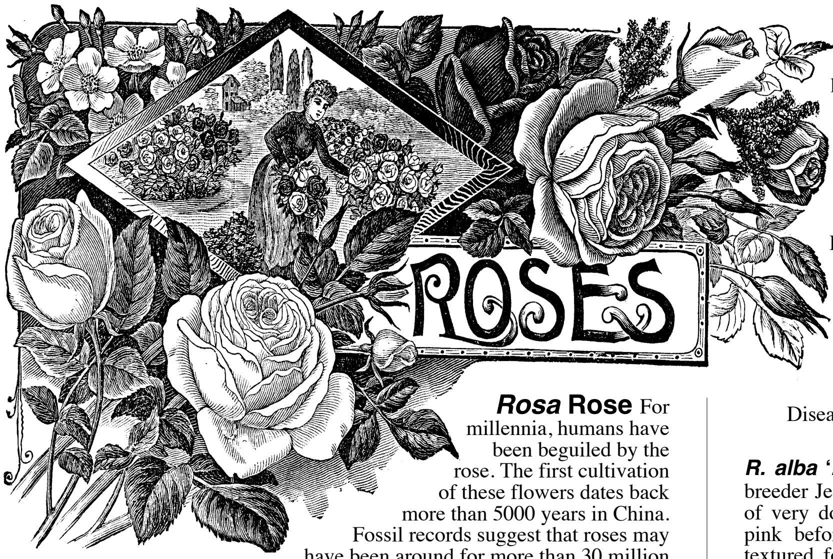
L544A Victoria Rhubarb Seedlings, $11.50

Rhubarb

Plant the top of the root division level with the surface in well-prepared well-drained rich slightly acid soil (pH 5.5–6.5). Add a bushel of well-rotted manure or compost under each crown. When plant is established, fertilize liberally with manure and balanced garden fertilizer or compost every spring, as it's a heavy feeder. Harvest for 4 weeks 2 years after planting. Thereafter you can harvest for 8–10 weeks each year. Never remove more than $^{2}/_{3}$ of the stalks from a plant.

Every 10 years or so, divide plants in early spring, leaving about $^{1}/_{3}$ of the crown in place. Cut up the remainder into fist-sized pieces and replant.

ROSES



Rosa Rose For millennia, humans have been beguiled by the rose. The first cultivation of these flowers dates back more than 5000 years in China. Fossil records suggest that roses may have been around for more than 30 million years. Regarded as the ultimate icon of love, grace, beauty and elegance, roses continue to be the subject of art and poetry across the world.

Roses have long been used in medicine, food, tea and essential oils. In the first century, Pliny the Elder recorded more than 30 uses of rose medicine. Rose leaves, petals, hips and roots all have medicinal properties to treat a range of disorders from wounds to stomach problems. Rose hips are rich in vitamin C and make a wonderful "rose apple" jam; rose-petal elixir calms the nerves and lifts the spirit.

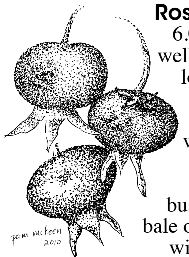
Each year, we aim to offer a diverse selection of unusual and antique varieties. If your favorite is not on the list this year, we may offer it in the future. Unlike hybrid tea roses, these roses are not to be pampered; all are vigorous, rugged, hard to kill, cold hardy and disease and pest resistant. Many of our roses are propagated and grown without pesticides at Corn Hill Nursery in Canada, just over the border. See our Rose sidebar for detailed cultural information. Native to temperate regions around the world. (1-3')

***R.* 'Harison's Salmon'** 4-6' x same. Open-pollinated seedling derived from *R. pimpinellifolia* 'Harison's Yellow' by famous Harvard botanist Stephen F. Hamblin in 1929. Rare heirloom prized by collectors. Peach-colored buds open to fragrant semi-double loosely open-cupped flowers with yellow-blushed salmon petals. Soft yellow in comparison to brighter Harison's Yellow. *R. pimpinellifolia* is synonymous with *R. spinosissima*, also known as Scotch Briar rose from Scotland, which in the 18th and 19th centuries was bred with Persian Yellow to create many popular yellow and white varieties. Tall, upright, rarely suckers. Z3.

545A Harison's Salmon Rose, $16.00

***R.* 'J.P. Connell'** 5' x 4-7' [Arthur Bell x (Von Scharnhorst x open pollinated)] F. Svejda intro, AAFC, Morden Stn, 1987. Large yellow buds turn pale yellow as they open, then fade to a creamy apricot-tinged white. Golden stamens. Recurrent fully double (17–25 petals) and intensely fragrant. Dense upright form with glossy rich green foliage. According to Bob Osbourne of Corn Hill Nursery, this rose is associated with the Canadian Explorer Series only because it was released at the same time. Its parentage is unrelated, and J.P. Connell was not an explorer. Z3.

546A J.P. Connell Rose, $16.00



Roses prefer full sun (at least 4–6 hrs per day) and a pH of 6.0–7.0. Space them 4–6' apart. They will do well in most well-drained soils with a good amount of organic matter. In locations with poor drainage, add gravel at the bottom of the planting hole, or build in drainage. Pick a site with good air flow, but avoid sites with cold northwest winds. Avoid competition with tree roots.

Plant roses as early as soil can be worked. Most roses' roots don't spread beyond the original hole, so dig a bushel-sized hole, as deep as 2' or more. We recommend a bale of rotten hay in the bottom of the planting hole. Mix soil with liberal quantities of well-rotted manure and compost. Add a coffee-can full of rock phosphate or bone meal.

Soak roots in water overnight or up to three days before planting. Prior to planting, prune roses back to 3 canes, 2–5" tall. Plant them 1" below the level they were in the nursery. Add water as you fill in the hole to puddle it in. Mound soil around branches to prevent them from drying out, and to encourage buds to sprout. As the buds open, pull back the soil to the correct level.

Shrub roses and climbers will require little pruning in later years. Any pruning should wait until after the forsythia blooms. Remove dead or broken branches, and periodically cut out the oldest wood. Keep roses well mulched to retain moisture and reduce weeds. Add 2 shovelfuls of composted manure to each crown late in the fall. For more information see Suzanne Verrier's pamphlet *Growing Old-Fashioned Hardy Roses Organically,* available in the book section of our Seed Catalog.

***R.* 'Pink Grootendorst'** 4-6' x 3-4' 'F.J. Grootendorst' sport. Holland, 1923. Rugosa hybrid with large clusters of small soft pink 1–2" double flowers with serrated petals like those of a carnation bloom. Similar to its red parent in all characteristics but color, and occasionally reverts to red. Flowers continuously throughout the summer though not fragrant and does not make hips. Upright, vigorous, abundant with bushy light green leathery leaves. Z3.

547A Pink Grootendorst Rose, $16.00

***R.* 'Quadra'** 5-6' x 2-4' Complex *R. kordesii* hybrid, Canadian Explorer Series, 1994. Deep red velvety double 3–4" flowers cover tall upright vigorous canes that can be easily trained to climb. Fragrant flowers fade to a dark pink and have short petals similar to a gallica. Repeat bloomer June until frost. New foliage has an attractive red hue as it emerges. Shrub rose bred for hardiness and named after Spanish explorer Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra, who travelled the Canadian Pacific coast in search of the Northwest Passage. Spreading habit but not difficult to control. Disease resistant. Canes may die back slightly, but hardy to –35°. Z3.

548A Quadra Rose, $16.00

***R. alba* 'Armide'** 4-5' x 3-4' *R. alba* hybrid. Hybridized by famous rose breeder Jean-Pierre in Vibert, France, 1818. Rare antique rose with clusters of very double 2–3" bright white strongly fragrant blooms. Buds emerge pink before opening and bloom once June-July. Medium-green coarse-textured foliage. Named after seductress Armida in Italian poet Torquato Tasso's 1581 epic "Jerusalem Delivered." Z3.

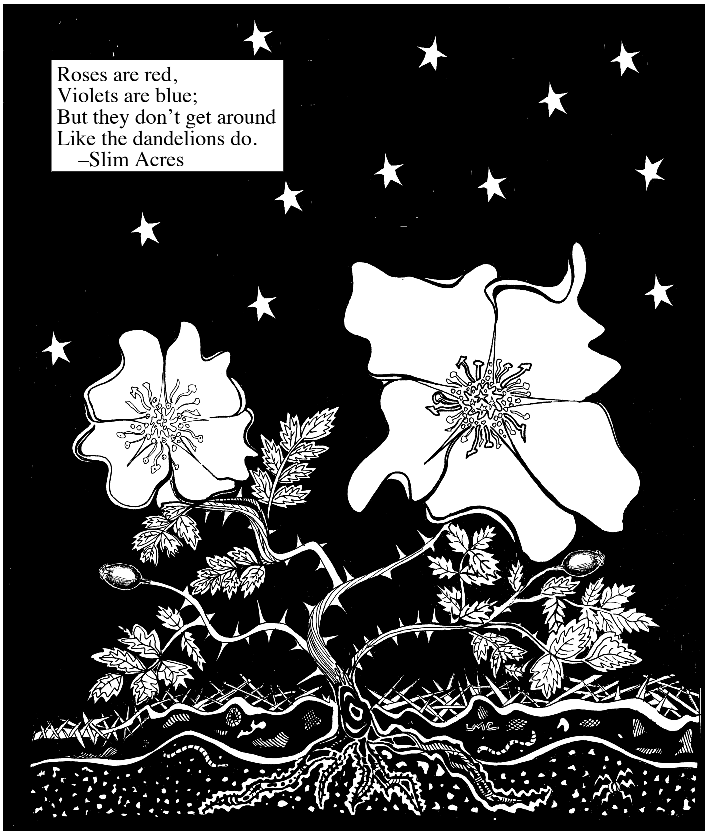
549A Armide Rose, $16.00

***R. a.* 'Chloris'** 6-8' x 4-6' *R. alba* hybrid, pre-1820. Exact parentage unknown but believed to include *R. damascena*, *R. canina*, *R. corymbifera* and *R. gallica*. Thornless fragrant pale blush-pink double flowers look ruffled from afar. Outer edges of petals are slightly jagged and unfurl out of a tightly folded center. It's the hardiest thornless rose that connoisseur Bob Osborne knows. One of the main species grown for essential oil in Bulgaria for export to the perfume industry in France. Rose petals from half-opened blossoms are harvested between sunrise and 9 a.m. when the concentration of volatile oils is at its highest. Strong upright habit. Z4.

550A Chloris Rose, $16.00

***R. glauca* Redleaf Rose** 5-8' x same. Formerly *R. rubrifolia*. Feathery upright arching spreading shrub with purple stems and soft reddish-purple coppery foliage. Exceptionally beautiful throughout the season. Some people diss this rose because it's only about the foliage—I disagree. Although the flowers get lost from a distance, they are quite wonderful: single with brilliant yellow stamens and distinctly two-toned petals of white and bright pink. We planted this rose by the front door where it's admired every day. Abundant smallish bright red-purple hips. Will spread by suckers and form a small colony. Disease resistant. Native to central Europe. Z2.

551A Redleaf Rose, $16.00



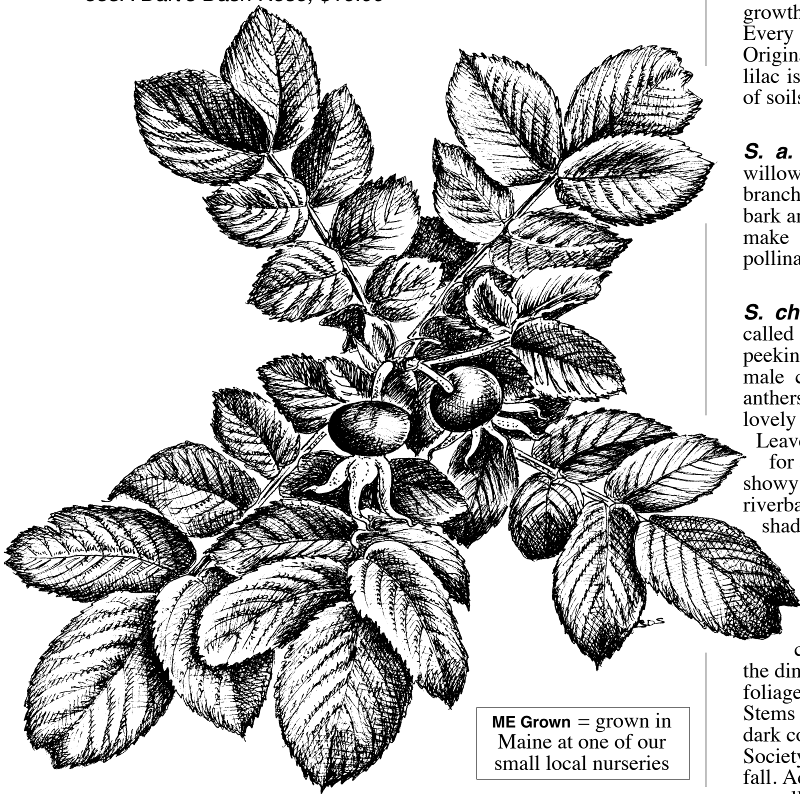
Roses are red,
Violets are blue;
But they don't get around
Like the dandelions do.
–Slim Acres

Rosa rugosa 4-6' x same. Also called **Japanese Rose** or **Beach Rose**. Vigorous spreading shrub with dark green wrinkled (rugose) leaves. Flowers range from deep pink to white. Large edible red hips up to 1" are good for jams, teas and fresh eating right off the bush. Deb Soule of Avena Botanicals uses these petals in her much-loved Rose Petal Elixir. Considered by herbalists of Western, Chinese and Ayurvedic traditions to be rejuvenating and cooling. Blooms form on both old and new wood, so pruning necessary only to control size. Prefers full sun and well-drained fertile soil with a pH of 6–7, but will grow in depleted soil and even in sand. Tolerates salt, pollution and drought; practically care-free. Although native to China and Japan and assumed to have been brought here by sailors long ago, there is now reason to believe that the rugosas may have been here for many centuries and may even be native. Z2.

552A Rosa Rugosa Rose, bundle of 5, $16.00

***R. r.* 'Dart's Dash'** 4x5' *Rosa rugosa* hybrid, parentage unknown. Darthuis Nursery, Netherlands, date unknown. Semi-double (12–16 petals) very large 3–4" crimson-purple flowers fill the air with a lemony scent. Blooms all summer and into fall and can create a stunning hedge or border. Somewhat similar to Hansa but more compact and longer blooming. Terrific fall display of beautiful large orange-red edible hips that soften after a few light frosts. Bright green disease-resistant foliage turns orange in the fall. Z2.

553A Dart's Dash Rose, $16.00



ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Old-fashioned Roses

Roses grown in Europe before 1800 are referred to as "Old World" roses, including the cultivars of *Rosa gallica* and *R. alba*. They were pink in color, from the deepest dark purple of 'Cardinal de Richelieu' to just a faint blush of pink like that of 'Chloris.' There were no reds among these antique roses and, though rich in fragrance, they bloomed only once per season. In the late 1700s red roses with repeat blooming tendencies were introduced from China, completely shifting the focus of rose breeding to hybridizing for these traits. Demand for the aromatic and medicinal qualities of the Old World roses declined, in deference to flowers that lasted long through the season. The hybrids created since then are called "modern" roses and are much more commonly seen in gardens today.

R. gallica is considered the oldest rose and still grows wild in some places in the Caucasus, the mountainous region between the Black and Caspian seas, where it originated. Its exact origin is unknown but it can be traced back fourteen centuries when it was considered a symbol of love by the Persians. Most modern-day roses are presumed to be descendants of the *gallicas*. The aromatic petals hold their scent better than any other rose and have long been considered medicinal. This species contains hundreds of different cultivars, some very similar and others unique. Most have similar compact shrub habits and are generally very hardy.

The *albas* are almost as old as the *gallicas* and are also believed to have travelled west from the Caucasus with the Greeks and Romans. Many of the cultivars of *albas* were bred in the 1800s in Europe. Though they flower only once, they should not be overlooked, as their beauty and fragrance are unparalleled by any modern rose. They are considered "tree roses" with tall canes that can be trained to fences, pillars and stonewalls, like climbers. Unlike many roses, ***albas*** **bloom on old wood**—if pruned too heavily, they can take years to flower again. Like heirloom apples, they are actually more disease resistant than many of the modern hybrids.

Salix **Willow** The genus *Salix* comprises hundreds of different species of plants most commonly called willows but sometimes called **Osier** or **Sallow**. Willows grow all over the world. Some are towering specimens, like the weeping willow. Others are short scrubby bushes, like some willows growing in the arctic: only two feet tall but 100 years old! Uses include ornamental landscaping, shade, basket-making, erosion control, timber, fuel and medicine. All parts, especially the bark, contain salicin, used for relief of pain and fever for hundreds, or even thousands, of years. Aspirin is a synthetic analog of salicin. Willows feed local wildlife, insects and birds. We plant them near the orchard to provide early season forage for our native pollinators. All prefer sun and loamy wet soils, but are adaptable, easily transplanted and fast growing. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

S. alba* 'Britzensis' Coral Bark Willow** 15-30' x 12-15' Späth intro, Britz, Germany, 1878. Also called ***S. a. var. ***vitellina*** **'Britzensis'**. Fast-growing shrubby tree with highly ornamental "coral" red bark. Especially beautiful in the snowy winter landscape. Recommended for filling the winter flower vase. No water: just set the dormant branches in the vase and enjoy. The deep red stems will dry to a rusty red. The color is most striking on new growth so give it an annual spring pruning or even cut it right to the ground. Every spring you'll get new 5–10' red stems. Typically narrow *Salix* leaves. Originally raised from seed by the famous nurseryman Ludwig Späth whose lilac is one of *the* all-time favorites. Likes water, adaptable to a wide range of soils and conditions. Full sun to light shade. Z2.

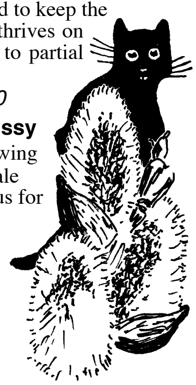
559A Coral Bark Willow, $13.00

***S. a.* 'Tristis' Niobe Weeping Willow** 50x50' The classic weeping willow, a very large majestic graceful wide-spreading tree. Golden drooping branches, which can hang to the ground, are used for basket weaving; golden bark and leaves used medicinally. Harvest twiggy branches in early spring to make a tincture. Buzzes with life when May flowers attract loads of pollinating bees. Native to southern Europe and western Asia. Z4.

560A Tristis Niobe Weeping Willow, $13.00

S. chaenomeloides **Japanese Pussy Willow** 12-20' x same. Also called **Giant Pussy Willow**. Late winter catkins reveal a hint of silver peeking through the dark red bud scales. When fully open, 1–3" long showy male catkins are grey with a dusting of pink. Later still, yellow-orange anthers cover the mature catkins giving a rich creamy hue from a distance. A lovely tree in every stage and one of the first signs of spring's arrival. Leaves open reddish and become yellow-green and the glamour makes way for an excellent hedge shrub, especially when pruned to keep the showy stems within easy reach for cutting. Naturally thrives on riverbanks and sand bars but soil adaptable. Full sun to partial shade. Native to Asia. Z4/5.

561A Japanese Pussy Willow, $13.00



***S. gracilistyla* 'Melanostachys' Black Pussy Willow** 6-10' x same. Very attractive fast-growing plant for wetland areas. Large purple-black male catkins in early spring; cut branches are marvelous for the dining table or kitchen windowsill. The rather short foliage emerges orange and then turns a deep green. Stems turn a rich purple-black in winter. Attractive dark colors all year. Winner of Royal Horticulture Society Award of Garden Merit. Prune in summer or fall. Adaptable. Prefers moist soil but will tolerate dry as well. Native to eastern Asia. Z4.

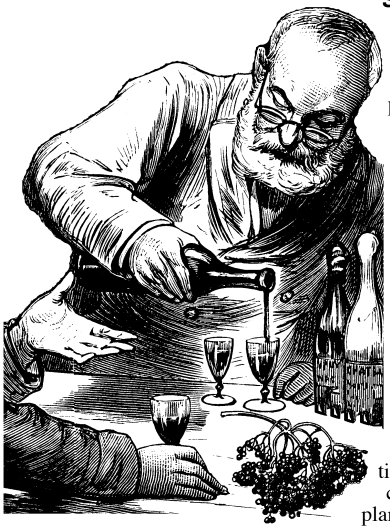
562A Black Pussy Willow, $13.00

***S. purpurea* 'Nana' Blue Leaf Arctic Willow** 3-5' x 3-6' Selection of Purple Osier willow. Medium-sized spreading shrub with small narrow blue foliage (actually greenish above and blue beneath) and delicate thin long red or green stems. The graceful thin stems sucker, layer and form a thick and highly attractive ornamental mass. Long cultivated and used for a fine-textured basket-making material. Excellent bank or hedge plant, especially in wet areas but also quite suitable for a highly visible location. We've seen it used in a perennial bed; it looked great. If it gets too overgrown, cut it to the ground every couple of years and it'll come right back. Native Europe to North Africa to Japan. Z3.

563A Nana Blue Leaf Arctic Willow, $13.00

Grower Profile: Jean English

Bayberry Gardens, Lincolnville, ME. Jean has been growing plants for Fedco for more than twenty years. She is our main willow supplier and propagates all her plants from cuttings. Jean tells us that she still gets a thrill from seeing new roots emerge from a cutting. In addition to growing woodies for our catalog, she is an avid vegetable, herb and small fruits gardener, grows organic cut-your-own Christmas trees and loves mowing with her scythe. Jean is an adjunct instructor at Unity College, editor of MOFGA's quarterly newspaper, and somehow she also has time to serve on several local committees.



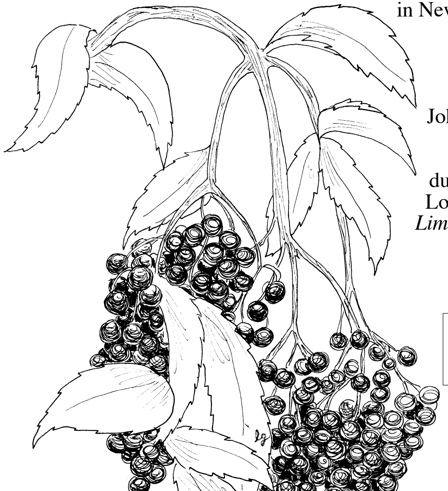
***Sambucus* Elderberry** 6-12' x same. This amazing plant has more attributes than we can list. Dangling clusters of edible purple-black berries ripen in late summer on this broad vigorous multi-stemmed shrub. The fruit is highly nutritious and medicinal. A century ago, everyone's grandmother knew how to make the perfect elderberry pie. Recipes for jam could be found in all the old farm cookbooks. Elderberries are making a big comeback as folks rediscover the scrumptiousness of elderberry jelly, cordial, elixir and wine. The large creamy-white flower clusters, or cymes, that cover the shrub in early summer make delicious fritters. Dry them for a fragrant wintertime cold-and-flu remedy tea. For centuries, humans have used this plant's medicinal qualities to treat a wide range of ailments and to boost the immune system. Hippocrates is said to have called the elder tree his "medicine chest." Birds love the fruit, and the blossoms attract beneficial insects and pollinators. Elderberry trees appear in myths from days of yore, thought to possess magical and protective powers. Very disease resistant, no major insect problems. Elderberries are low-maintenance and easy to grow. With a little attention, they will provide strong yields of fruit for several decades. **Considered self-fertile but** multiple plants will improve fruit set—okay to mix species. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

***S. canadensis* 'Adams No. 1'** NY State Ag Experiment Station intro, 1926. Selected in 1915 from the wild by William Adams in Union Springs, NY, and sent to Geneva where it was introduced 11 years later. Large berries and fruit clusters make for easy and fast picking. If you're heading to a potluck and need to make a pie in a pinch, Adams is the shrub you want. Excellent for preserving and not bad fresh eating. Very large vigorous strong productive bush. Typically 7–8' tall.

566A Adams No. 1 Elderberry, $17.00

***S. c.* 'Goodbarn'** Chance seedling. Elwyn Meader intro, Rochester, NH. Professor Meader named this Goodbarn because it was the good elderberry growing under the eaves of his barn in New Hampshire. Another of the many fine plants that Elwyn's son John has brought to our attention over the years. Thanks, John! Hardy, vigorous with apparent self-fertility. It blooms heavily and produces large crops annually. Lower grower, maybe to 5'. *Limited supply; order early.*

567A Goodbarn Elderberry, $18.00



ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

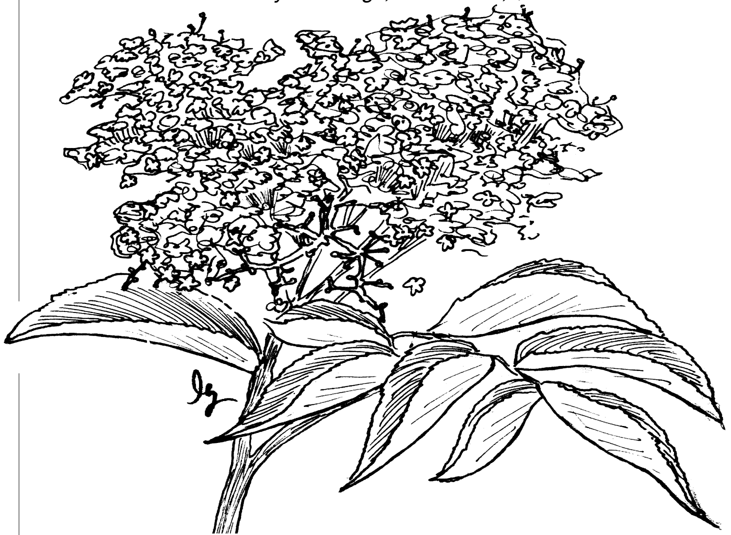
Before cooking, remove elderberries from their stems. This can be done while the berries are fresh or frozen. We pick and pack entire panicles of berries into plastic bags and put the bags in the freezer. Once frozen, remove and whack the bag with a stick. The berries will easily fall from the stems. Snip a hole in the corner of the bag and the berries will roll out. Freezing will not damage the fruit.

***S. c.* 'York'** (Ezyoff x Adams No. 2) NY Ag Exp Station, 1964. An old reliable, considered by some to be the largest-fruited and heaviest-bearing cultivar. In most of our Maine trials, this shrub is more compact than Adams, topping out at 4–5', but we've seen a 10' specimen growing on a compost pile. Persistent and will bear well for many years alongside other varieties. Heavy clusters of mildly tart large berries that ripen after Adams are easy to pick and excellent for jam, jelly, wine and pie. Bright green foliage on a rounded shrub.

570A York Elderberry, $17.00

***S. c.* Elderberry Seedlings** Each one is grown from cold-hardy seed and will be a totally unique plant. Some of our best plants grew from batches of such seedlings. Jen has one that outgrew all of her other elders and provided huge amounts of berries in its second year. It's fun to mix it up and see what you get.

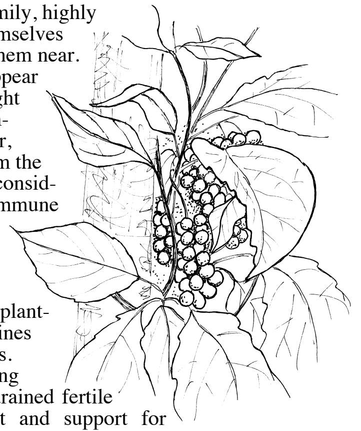
571A Elderberry Seedlings, $17.00
571B Elderberry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $75.00



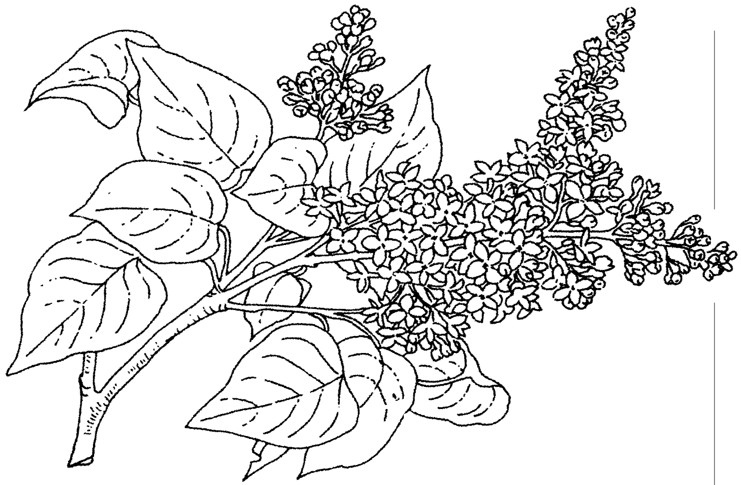
Elderberries are best grown in rich soil with a pH of 5.5–7.5 but are adaptable to a variety of soil types. They love compost! Add compost to the hole at the time of planting and every spring after that. They prefer moist soil but will tolerate poor drainage and temporary flooding. On the St. Croix River, we've harvested elderberries from the canoe! Plant in full sun. Susceptible to borers when weeds are allowed to crowd the base. Control weeds by mulching with a thick layer of hay, leaves or woodchips. Aggressive weeding around elders will disturb their shallow roots and risk injury to the plant.

Pruning: *S. canadensis*: in spring, while plant is still dormant, prune away any weak, broken or dead canes. New canes will emerge. Fruit is produced on both new and old wood but best sets are on one- and two-year canes. Periodically cut out the oldest wood. Alternately, some people prefer to cut elders back to the ground each year and treat them as perennials. The latter plants will produce fewer but larger fruit clusters. *S. caerulea*: Do nothing, or remove dead canes as needed. *S. nigra*: Fruits on second-year wood.

***Schisandra chinensis* Schisandra Berry** 20' or taller. Called *wu wei zi* in Chinese medicine, which translates as 'five flavors fruit.' A member of the magnolia family, highly ornamental vines twist and wrap themselves around just about anything you put them near. Small delicate orchid-like flowers appear on young shoots in early spring. Bright red clusters of medicinal berries composed of all five flavors—sweet, sour, salty, bitter and pungent—droop from the elegant vines in September. Fruit is considered adaptogenic, used to build the immune system and rejuvenate the whole body against stress. Dry berries for tea or make them into a tincture, so delicious it tastes more like cordial. Generally bears fruit 4–5 years after planting. Optimal fruiting will occur on vines trained horizontally, similar to grapes. Vines have alternate leaves resembling those of hardy kiwi. Plant in well-drained fertile sandy loam with lots of compost and support for climbing. Prefers dappled shade but likes the morning sun. Difficult to transplant once leafed out. Sunburn or fading on leaves is typical first year after transplanting so keep them well-watered until established. These seedlings are dioecious—**having multiple plants is essential for fruit**. Native to China. Z4. *Limited supply*. **ME Grown.** (well-rooted transplants)



575A Schisandra Berry, $25.00

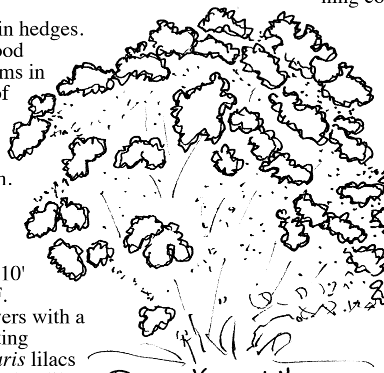


Syringa **Lilacs** have been a fixture in the New England landscape for generations. More often than not, when we find old apples trees, the ancient lilacs are not far away. The large rambling suckering shrubs continue to flourish each spring long after the buildings have disappeared and all that remains of homesteads are the remnants of stone foundations. Why were the lilacs always planted just outside the kitchen door? On cold winter mornings, husband or wife would clean out the wood stove and sprinkle ashes on the icy path to the backhouse. Or maybe the path to the wood shed or the clothesline. Over the years, the earth outside the kitchen door became saturated with lime. Lilacs love alkaline soil.

In the landscape, lilacs are excellent alone or in hedges. Deep green glossy heart-shaped foliage looks good from spring through fall. Intensely fragrant blooms in May over a period of several weeks. Hundreds of varieties have been developed over the ages. Flowers range from singles to doubles, pure white to the deepest purple, not to mention pinks and reds and lavenders of every persuasion. Ornamental, edible (frittered flowers à la elderberry), medicinal and a great Mother's Day gift. (1-3')

***S.* x *prestoniae* 'James Macfarlane'** 8' x 6-10' (*S.* x *josiflexa* 'Royalty' x an unknown) Albert F. Yeager intro, UNH, 1959. True-pink single flowers with a pleasant fragrance that always surprises me wafting across the yard a couple of weeks after the *vulgaris* lilacs are gone by. Blooms in late June, long after the other lilacs have faded. Long large elliptical foliage typical of the Preston hybrids. Upright form. Precocious. Will not sucker. Named for a beloved longtime UNH horticulturalist and greenhouse manager. Extremely hardy. Z2.

576A James MacFarlane Lilac, $15.00



Prune Your Lilac
LOW FOR A shrub

***S. vulgaris* Common Purple** 12-15' x same. A mass of medium-light purple blooms every year. A magnificent New England sight for nearly 400 years. When a nursery friend looked out John's living room window and thought he had some fancy new cultivar, he chuckled, "Nope, just the good old common purple." Never disappoints. Suckers freely, the best lilac for a spreading hedge. Z2.

577A Common Purple Lilac, $15.00

Lilacs are adaptable, easy to grow, nearly indestructible and practically maintenance-free. Plant them in a well-drained location in moderately rich soil. Sandy gravelly loam is perfect. They prefer at least 6 hours of sunlight each day. We suggest planting them with a shovelful of wood ash or lime, then add another shovelful of either one every three years. A yearly mulch of manure or compost will encourage spectacular annual blooming. Pink, lavender and blue lilacs color up best in soil with a neutral pH.

How to prune lilacs

Prune right after flowering. Late-season pruning removes next year's buds. As the plant matures, prune off a quarter of the new suckers and the oldest growth (a few main stems each year). Some growers prefer to keep the plant low and bushy. Do so by "topping" it off every year: prune any upright branch back to a junction with a lower branch. Others prefer a tall tree-like form. Our friends Philippe and Danielle have let theirs soar to 8' or more, removing the lower branches and creating a magical walkway in the process. Lilacs are more than willing to cater to your own personal vision. Have fun! No need to cut off spent flowers except for appearance.

Why isn't my lilac blooming?

Too shady: lilacs need sun to form blossoms. Over-pruned: pruned too late, removed buds. Also, some plants respond to excessive pruning by putting their energy into vegetative growth instead of flowering. Too wet: lilacs like well-drained soil. Over-fertilized: lilacs will bloom well without assistance. Too much fertility can lead more vegetative growth and inhibit bud formation.

***S. v.* 'Miss Ellen Willmott'** 10x10' Victor Lemoine et Fils, Nancy, France, 1903. Creamy buds and very thick double white blooms. Small clusters of upright panicles are evenly distributed like white polka dots on a green summer shirt. Upright slightly rounded shrub with visible undulating vertical stems. It's not a thick plant: you can see through it. One of the oldest named varieties from one of the most famous of all lilac breeders. Z3.

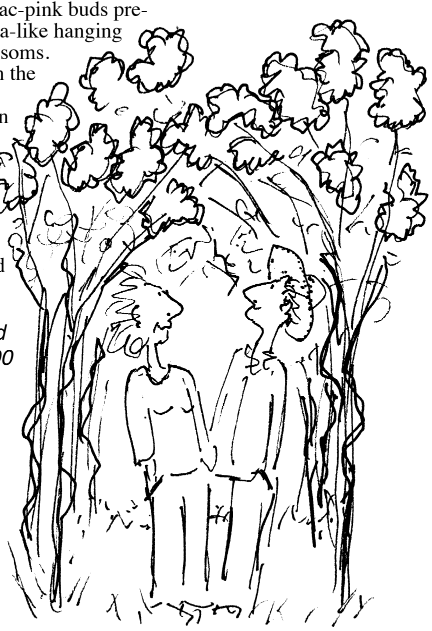
578A Miss Ellen Willmott Lilac, $15.00

***S. v.* 'Monge'** 10-12' x 8-12' Victor Lemoine et Fils, Nancy, France, 1913. Large broad outstanding showy single dark silvery red-purple blooms, similar to 'Ludwig Spaeth'. There's a lovely specimen growing behind Garden Variety in Thorndike, ME. Considered one of Lemoine's best introductions. Medium-sized slightly flattish panicles, two or three per cluster. Open upright rounded form. Z3.

579A Monge Lilac, $15.00

***S. v.* 'Wedgwood Blue'** 6x8' ('Rochester' x 'Mrs. August Belmont') John Fiala intro, Ohio, 1981. Lilac-pink buds precede large beautiful wisteria-like hanging racemes of single blue blossoms. Named for the blue color in the English pottery you might have seen collecting dust on your grandmother's shelf. Very showy with a fine fragrance. Excellent for cutting. Upright form. Somewhat more modest in stature than other lilacs. Plant with deep purples and reddish magentas for stunning contrast. Z3.

580A Wedgwood Blue Lilac, $15.00



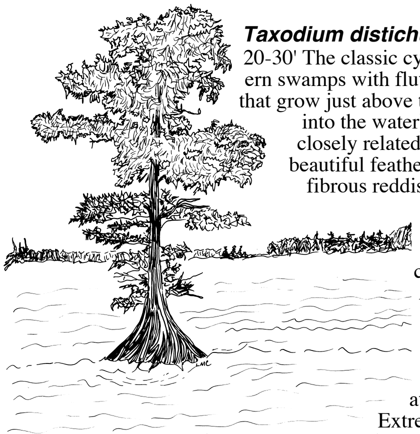
PRUNE LILACS TALL
FOR A SHADY WALKWAY

Deep in the Weeds Weeds show up everywhere, not just on the land but in our language, too. You weed something out of your life. The weed of crime bears bitter fruit. To be deep in the weeds. Mostly metaphors of perniciousness and overwhelmingness. I can relate. There are times when the weeds get me down, when I can't get ahead of them in the garden, or when they're strangling roadside natives. On those days I'm not in love with weeds.

At some point, I realized I spend more time handling weeds than I spend with my cultivated specimens. The untamed plants began to pique my curiosity. It's hard to ignore how diverse, self-sufficient, tenacious and attractive some of them are. I've long enjoyed wild edibles—a fancy term for tasty weeds: lambsquarter, purslane, amaranth, sheep sorrel, dandelion, to name a few. I picked up a field guide and started to learn about others: pennycress, speedwell, shepherd's-purse, heal-all, filaree. I love the way they sound falling off the tongue. Many of these names have stories behind them, glimpses into the long history between humans and plants.

The weeds have their own language, too. They tell me about my soil by where they choose to grow and they highlight gaps in my knowledge as a bumbling land steward. They fill in the blank spaces, hold the earth together, feed the pollinators, create jobs, mend the wounds we make on the planet, and grow where no else wants to live. Regularly, I find myself deep in the weeds, and loving it.

–Jen Ries

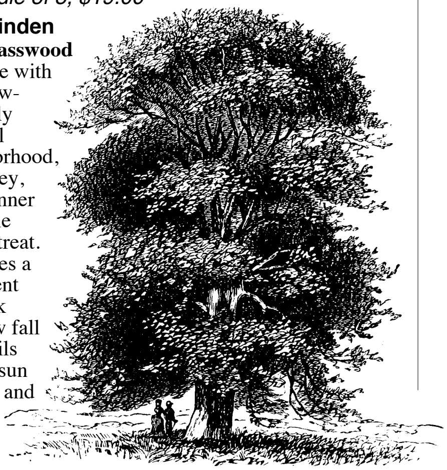


***Taxodium distichum* Bald Cypress** 50-70' x 20-30' The classic cypress seen growing in southern swamps with fluted trunks and "knees" (roots that grow just above the water line and flare down into the water). Ancient deciduous conifer, closely related to the dawn redwood, sports beautiful feathery soft attractive needles and fibrous reddish brown bark. Thrives in the south where it hosts a diversity of mosses and creates ideal canopy conditions for certain plants growing below. Also surprisingly cold hardy. Might be hardy to –20° but may not thrive above southern Maine. Prefers deep loamy acidic moist moderately drained soil and full sun. Extremely wind tolerant. Makes a good street tree. Note: The tree will not develop buttressed knees when cultivated in non-swampy conditions. Native Delaware to Florida and from the Midwest to Texas. Z5. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

585A Bald Cypress, $16.00

***Thuja occidentalis* Arborvitae** 20-60' *Arborvitae* means 'tree of life.' Also called **Eastern White Cedar**. Common throughout the entire state of Maine although some stands have been depleted by overcutting. Narrow and tall with twiggy branches, soft fibrous orange-brown bark, and flat foliage unlike that of any other conifer. Foliage and bark tea high in vitamin C. Foliage tea helpful in infections, twig decoction makes an anti-viral anti-fungal skin wash. Valuable light fragrant wood, the standard for fence posts and log cabins in Maine. Slow growing, lives up to 400 years. Thrives in rich moist marshy neutral-to-alkaline soils. Good for screens and hedges. A favorite browse of deer. Pruning limbs and leaving them on the ground during a harsh winter helps sustain these animals and is a long-practiced tradition amongst natives caretaking the forests of Maine. Z2. (9-18")

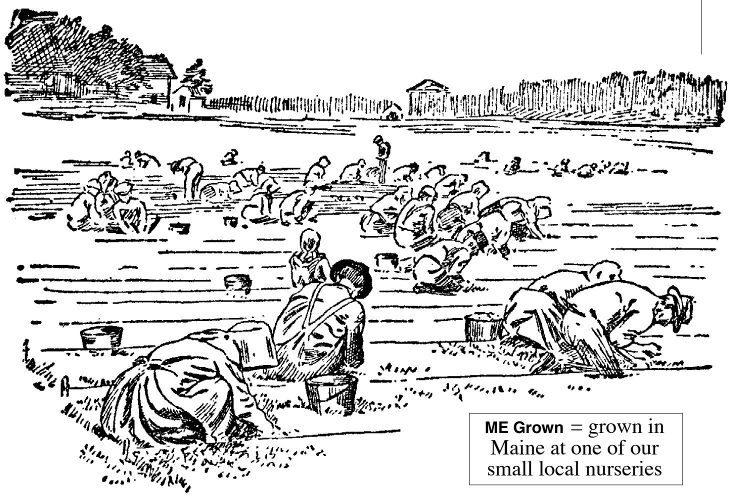
586A Arborvitae, bundle of 5, $19.00



***Tilia americana* American Linden** 60-80' x same. Also known as **Basswood** and **Butterwood**. Tall stately tree with rounded crown and numerous low-hung spreading branches. Sweetly fragrant yellow June flowers will attract all the bees in the neighborhood, are reputed to make the best honey, and also make a popular after-dinner tea and stomach remedy. Sprinkle them on your salad for a festive treat. The young half-size foliage makes a high-quality salad green. Excellent carving wood. Fibrous inner bark used for making cordage. Yellow fall color. Prefers deep rich moist soils with a pH slightly alkaline. Full sun or partial shade. Sensitive to salt and pollution. May live for 900 years. Native from New Brunswick to VA. Z3. (2-4')

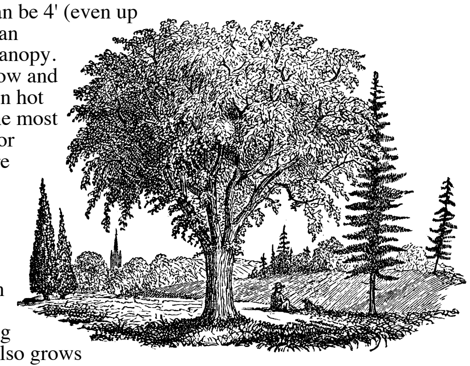
587A American Linden, $16.50

Wisdom is oftentimes nearer when we stoop than when we soar.
–William Wordsworth

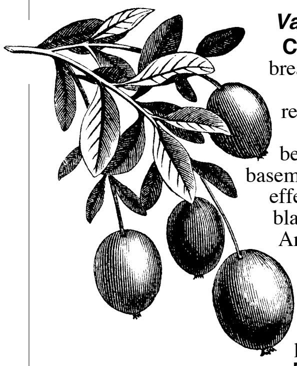


ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

***Ulmus americana* 'Princeton' American Elm** 60x70' Princeton Nursery intro, 1922. Large fast-growing graceful native once lined virtually every street in New England but declined dramatically due to Dutch elm disease. Fortunately, in recent years several disease-resistant cultivars have been introduced. This one has been in the trade for almost a century, chosen for its high resistance to the disease. Good resistance to elm leaf beetles, too. At maturity the trunk can be 4' (even up to 8'!) in diameter with an immense vase-shaped canopy. Long loose branches blow and sway in a hazy breeze on hot summer days. One of the most wonderful shade trees for northern climates. We're infatuated with them. If you find yourself in Castine, ME, visit the huge old elms lining every street; you'll feel like you stepped back in time. Soil adaptable, prefers moist areas along rivers and streams but also grows well in drier places. Salt and drought tolerant. Plant more elms! Z4. (3-6')



588A Princeton American Elm, $29.00



***Vaccinium macrocarpon* 'Stevens' American Cranberry** This is the cranberry of holiday sauces, bread and jelly. Dense low lustrous evergreen ground cover, reddish purple in fall and loaded with large red berries. Once established, makes a beautiful and edible "lawn." Handpick or rake like blueberries before hard frost. Use fresh, freeze or store in a cool basement or root cellar for months. Bitter and alkalizing effects make it one of the most common remedies for bladder infections. An excellent source of vitamin C. Annually flooded for frost protection and harvesting convenience in commercial operations, but not necessary in home plots. Self-fertile. Native to northeastern U.S. and Canada. Comes in a bushy 6" clump which can be carefully divided or planted as a whole for division in future years. Z2. **ME Grown.** (1-gallon pots)

589A Stevens American Cranberry, $20.00

American Cranberries are shallow-rooted and require light acid soil (pH 4.0–5.5), preferably cool, moist and high in organic matter, similar to soil in which blueberries grow well. Will grow in dry locations. Plant them in spring once the ground can be worked in a bed or in a naturalized setting.

We no longer recommend mixing in sulfur to acidify the soil. Sulfur is slow-acting and can be added to soil surface in subsequent years if necessary. Mixing it into the soil can damage tender young roots.

Instructions for a 5x5′ bed (10 plants or divisions):

For acidic "blueberry" soils: If you're fortunate to have a site where blueberries grow naturally, clear a spot of vegetation, cultivate the soil, add some peat and sand if you like, and you're ready to plant.

Sandy soils: Remove soil 10" deep and mix soil with 2 bales of damp peat moss. Replace mixture in bed and cover with 2" of sand.

Clay or silty soils: Remove soil 10" deep and place it around the edge of the bed as a berm. Replace the soil with a 50-50 mix of soil and peat (about 2 bales of peat). Cover with an additional 2" of sand. Plant cranberries 12" apart, so the roots are in the peat and the sand is covering the lower portion of the stems.

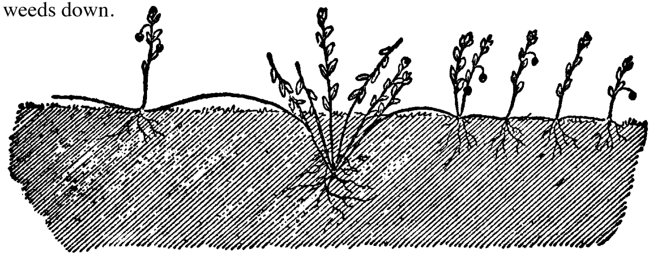
Remove all weeds as needed. Water the plants weekly so that the peat is moist but not saturated. Add nitrogen at a rate of 1/3–1 lb (or 20–50 lbs of manure) per 100 sq feet each year. No pesticides should be necessary.

Handpick before first hard frost when berries are red.

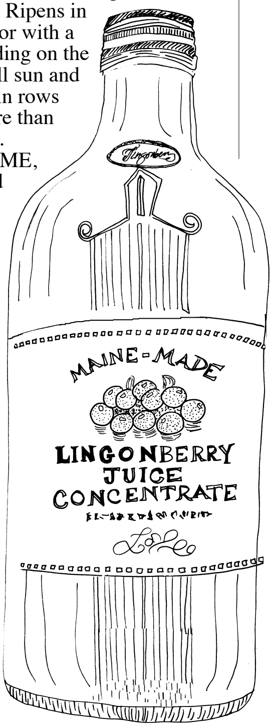
In late fall, cover the bed to protect the plants from the drying effect of winter winds. Use a mulch of leaves or pine needles; or cover with polyester row cover and then clear plastic; or cover with row cover and then plenty of leaves. You may want to bait for mice under row cover or plastic.

Remove mulch in early April. Protect flower buds from 28° frosts by covering with plastic during frosty nights.

Every two years partially cover the plants with a 1/2–1" layer of sand in spring before growth begins. This will help produce more berries and keep weeds down.



V. vitis-idaea **Lingonberry** Also called **Foxberry**, **Cowberry**, **Mountain Cranberry**. Vigorous shallow-rooted spreading groundcover is related to blueberries and cranberries. Bright red glossy nutritious fruits are slightly smaller than lowbush blueberries. Tart until dead ripe, then has excellent flavor, richer and less astringent than cranberries. Can be eaten fresh but primarily used in sauces, jams, syrups, fruit leathers, juices and wines. Stores up to 2 months in the fridge. Small shiny dark green foliage is quite lovely. Adorable tiny bell-shaped white flowers in spring attract a plethora of pollinators. Extremely popular in Scandinavia and now catching on in the U.S. If you've got good soil for blueberries, try these. Ripens in late summer but is best after a frost. Harvest by hand or with a blueberry rake. Will produce 1–2 lbs per plant depending on the variety and can produce for up to 20 years. Prefers full sun and poor sandy acid (pH 4.5–5) soils. Plant 12–18" apart in rows 3–4' apart. To ensure good fruit production, plant more than one variety. Native to the colder northern hemisphere. Incredibly tough and very hardy. Grown in Newport, ME, by Carol Armatis of 3B Apiary. Z2. **ME Grown.** (potted transplants)



V. v.-i. **'Erntesegen'** 12-15" Originated in Germany. High-yielding upright plant produces very large berries. Slightly acid sweet fruit.

L590A Erntesegen Lingonberry, $15.50

V. v.-i. **'Red Sunset'** 8-15" Hartmann's Plant Company intro. Medium-to- large firm flavorful berries. Considered one of the most vigorous cultivars.

L592A Red Sunset Lingonberry, $15.50

V. v.-i. **'Regal'** 8-15" WI-108, Univ of Wisconsin intro, Madison, WI, 1994. From open-pollinated seed collected in southwest Finland. Highly ornamental upright plant produces firm small-to-medium berries with good flavor. Vigorous and easily transplanted.

L593A Regal Lingonberry, $15.50

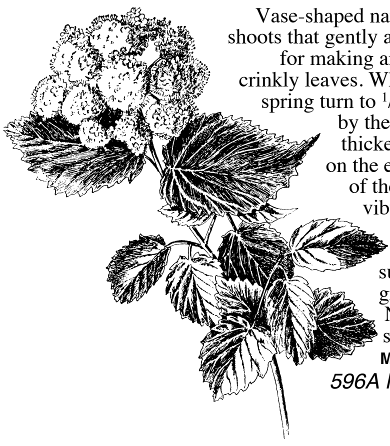
V. v.-i. **'Sussi'** 4-8" tall and spreading. Sometimes spelled 'Susi.' Patented by the Swedish Agricultural Department, 1985. Vigorous bush with moderate yields of medium berries that fruit on branch tips. Great pollinator for other varieties.

L594A Sussi Lingonberry, $15.50

Viburnum cassinoides **Northern Wild Raisin** 5-6' x same. Also called **Appalachian Tea**, **Raisinberry** or **Witherod**. Rounded arching dense suckering native shrub. Creamy-white flowers with yellow stamens on 2–5" flat-topped cymes bloom from spring to early summer. Highly desired for its multicolored edible fruit, which turns from green to pink to red to blue before finally turning black in September. One fruiting cluster may feature several colors at the same time. Best eaten when nearly dried out on the branch, if you can get to it before the birds! Foliage, once used in tea, emerges bronze or purple tinted, turning dark green when mature and then orange-red, dark crimson and purple in fall. *Withe* is from the old English meaning a tough, flexible twig used to bind things together. Witherod is pronounced *withe-rod*, not *wither-rod*. Good as a specimen or in mass plantings. Sun to partial shade. Very rugged: adapts to dry or wet sites. Native to eastern North America. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

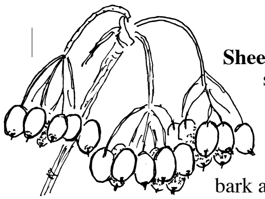
595A Northern Wild Raisin, $14.50

V. dentatum **Northern Arrowwood** 8-15' x 4-10' Vase-shaped native shrub with long straight rigid shoots that gently arch at the ends, traditionally used for making arrow shafts. Shiny deeply toothed crinkly leaves. White creamy flat flower clusters in spring turn to 1/4" blue or black fruit sought after by the birds. Found growing in lowland thickets as well as upland forests, often on the edge of the woods or near the side of the road. One of the most adaptable viburnums, it will grow in most conditions but prefers well-drained soil, full sun to light shade. Will sucker and form colonies. Makes a great screen or hedge plant. Native New Brunswick to Minnesota and south to Georgia. Z2/3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')



596A Northern Arrowwood, $14.50

> Many gardeners will agree that hand-weeding is not the terrible drudgery that it is often made out to be. Some people find in it a kind of soothing monotony. It leaves their minds free to develop the plot for their next novel or to perfect the brilliant repartee with which they should have encountered a relative's latest example of unreasonableness.
>
> –Christopher Lloyd



V. lentago **Nannyberry** 15-20' x 10-12' Also called **Sheepberry** or **Sweet Viburnum**. Large open vase-shaped suckering shrub with edible oval berries that turn from green to yellow to red to blue-black raisins that persist in winter and are popular with the birds. Large flat-topped clusters of fragrant creamy white flowers in spring. Shiny foliage, purplish red in fall. Medicinal bark and leaves. Native Americans ate the dried fruit as trail food for hunting trips but did not gather it in large quantities. Recommended for naturalizing, bird and wildlife habitat, screens and borders. Prefers moist well-drained average soils but adaptable to poor, compacted or dry soils. Sun or shade. Self-fertile, but plant two or more for better pollination and fruit production. Native to eastern U.S. and Canada. Z2. (1-3')

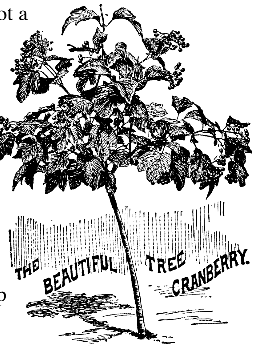
597A Nannyberry, $14.50

V. trilobum **Highbush Cranberry** 8-12' x same. Also known as **Crampbark**. Medicinal multi-stemmed native shrub. Clusters of 4" flat white flowers in May attract beneficial insects. Quite lovely in bloom. Pendulous bunches of red berries ripen mid-October, popular with dozens of bird species. Fruit is extremely rich in antioxidants and vitamins A and C. Although considered a wildlife plant, berries can be used for juice, jam, fruit leather and syrups. Bark is one of the most effective anti-spasmodic native medicinals. Harvest bark in April or early May before leaves emerge by running a sharp knife down the long younger stems. Make tea or tincture to relieve cramping and muscle tension of various sorts. Tolerates dry soils that are high in organic matter, but prefers rich moist well-drained soils, sun or shade. Good for screens and hedges. Soil pH 6–7. Susceptible to viburnum leaf beetle; check with your local extension office or nursery to determine if this could be a problem. Not a bog cranberry. Native to northeast U.S. and Canada. Self-pollinating. Z2. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

V. t. **'Phillips'** Selected by Elwyn Meader from plants found in W. Acton, ME. If you're hoping to eat the fruit, this one is superior in flavor. Berries do not emit offensive musky odor when heated. Jells without additional pectin.

598A Phillips Highbush Cranberry, $16.50

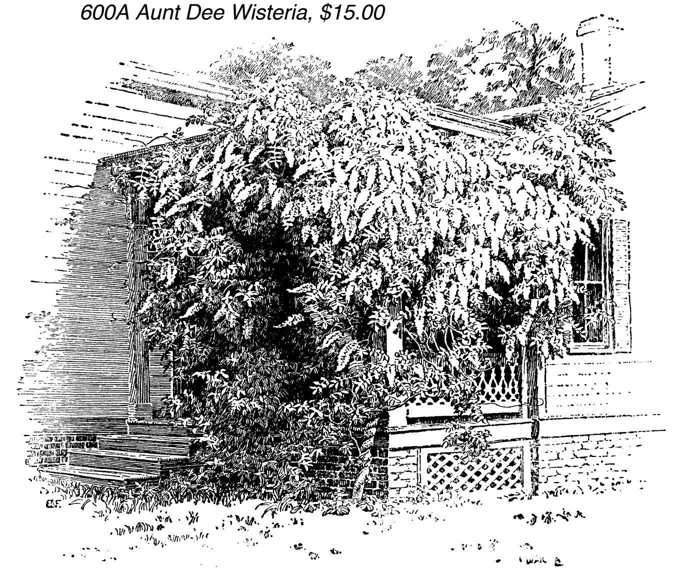
V. t. **Seedlings** Add to the biological diversity of your garden. No two seedlings are exactly alike. Not only is it fun and exciting to see what you get, it allows nature the opportunity to develop resistance and durability to insects and disease. **ME Grown.**

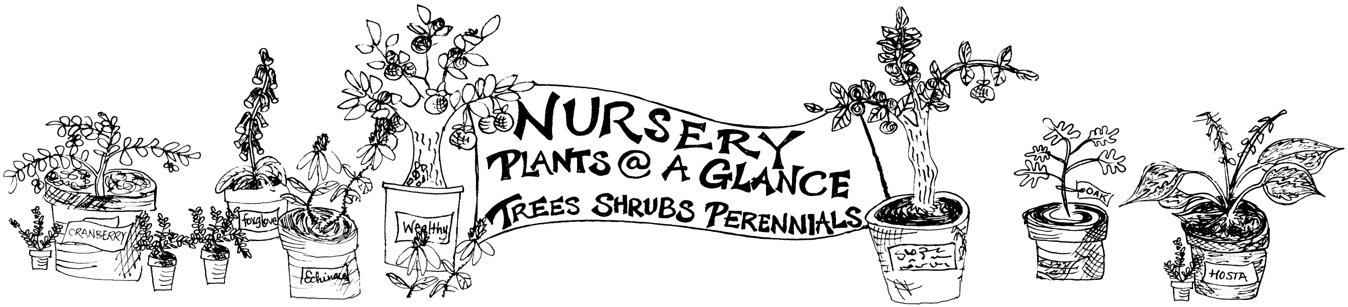

THE BEAUTIFUL TREE CRANBERRY.

599A Highbush Cranberry Seedlings, $15.50
599B Highbush Cranberry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $67.50

Wisteria macrostachya **'Aunt Dee' Wisteria** up to 50' (Species also called **Kentucky Wisteria**.) Magnificent twining vine with pinnate leaves for pillars, trellises, arbors, walls, even trees. Long 12" racemes of lightly fragrant lilac-purple flowers in late spring or early summer look almost like bunches of lavender grapes. Bean-like smooth green seed pods to 4" long. It can be tricky to get them to bloom in northern districts. We recommend light sandy soils, plenty of water and full sun. Excessively fertile soil may result in a lot of foliage and not many flowers. We recommend pruning one third of the growth each winter to encourage bloom. Vines can be quite powerful, so provide a very sturdy structure. Native of southeastern U.S. May need protection in Zone 4 but has even been known to flower in Z3. (well-rooted transplants)

600A Aunt Dee Wisteria, $15.00





NURSERY PLANTS @ A GLANCE

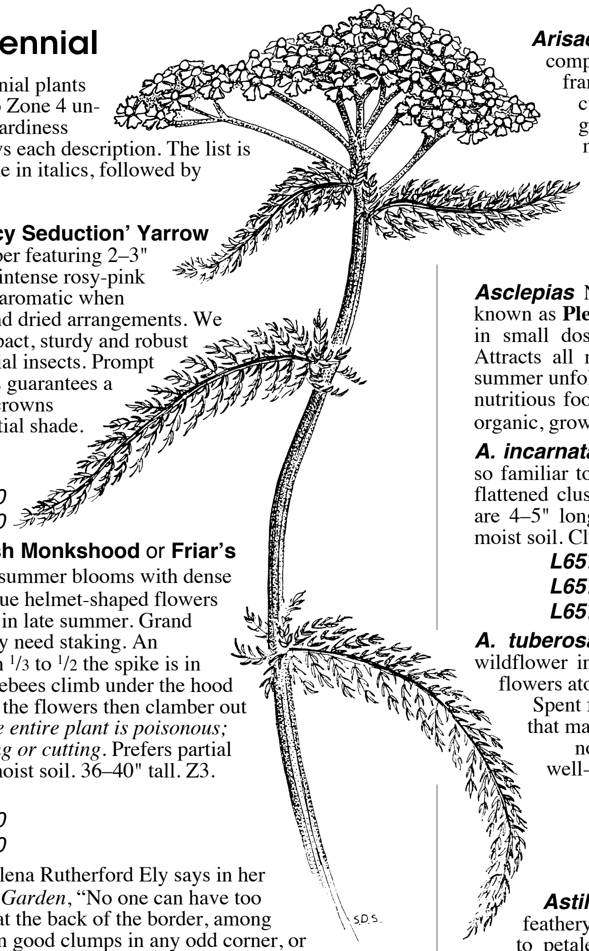
TREES SHRUBS PERENNIALS

Page	Name	Native	Edible Landscape	Medicinal	Orchard Companion	Drought Tolerant	Wet Tolerant	Shade	Hedges	Specimen	Ground Cover	Vine or Climber
40	Amelanchier, Juneberry	◆	◆			◆	◆		◆			
10-19	Apple		◆							◆		
23	Apricot		◆									
56	Arborvitae	◆		◆			◆	◆	◆			
57	Arrowwood	◆							◆			
68	Arnica	◆		◆	◆		◆				◆	
42	Asparagus		◆						◆			
50	Bayberry	◆		◆		◆			◆			
40	Bearberry	◆		◆		◆					◆	
42	Birch, Paper	◆					◆			◆		
42	Birch, River	◆					◆		◆	◆		
28	Blackberry	◆	◆						◆			
68	Black Cohosh	◆		◆			◆	◆		◆		
27	Blueberry, Highbush	◆	◆		◆		◆		◆	◆		
27	Blueberry, Lowbush	◆	◆	◆		◆					◆	
42	Butterfly Bush					◆			◆	◆		
60	Butterfly Weed	◆		◆	◆	◆						
47	Butternut	◆	◆									
43	Buttonbush	◆			◆		◆		◆	◆		
42	Carolina Allspice	◆							◆	◆		
43	Catalpa	◆								◆		
65	Catmint				◆	◆				◆		
23-24	Cherry, Sweet, Pie		◆							◆		
44	Cherry, Cornelian		◆	◆		◆			◆	◆		
51	Cherry, Dwarf Sour		◆						◆			
51	Cherry, Nanking		◆						◆			
43	Chestnut, American	◆	◆			◆			◆	◆		
43	Chestnut, Hybrid		◆						◆			
41	Chokeberry, Red, Black	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		◆			
51	Chokecherry	◆	◆			◆			◆			
61	Clematis							◆		◆		◆
69	Comfrey			◆	◆			◆	◆			
48-49	Crabapple		◆						◆	◆		
56	Cranberry, American	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆				◆	
57	Cranberry, Highbush	◆	◆	◆			◆		◆			
56	Cypress, Bald	◆					◆			◆		
49	Dawn Redwood						◆			◆		
45	Diervilla	◆			◆	◆						
44	Dogwood, Kousa		◆				◆		◆	◆		
44	Dogwood, Pagoda	◆			◆			◆				
44	Dogwood, Redosier	◆			◆		◆		◆			
44	Dogwood, Winter Flame				◆				◆	◆		
41	Dutchman’s Pipe	◆						◆				◆
68	Echinacea	◆		◆	◆	◆						
54	Elderberry	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆		◆	◆		
56	Elm, American	◆				◆	◆			◆		
62	Fern	◆					◆	◆			◆	
39	Fir, Balsam	◆		◆				◆	◆	◆		
45	Forsythia								◆	◆		
61	Foxglove, native	◆			◆			◆		◆		
68	Ginger, Wild	◆	◆	◆				◆			◆	
45	Ginkgo		◆	◆						◆		
65	Goldenrod, Stiff	◆			◆					◆		
69	Goldenseal	◆		◆				◆				
30-31	Grape	◆	◆			◆						◆
40	Groundnut	◆	◆					◆				◆
43	Hackberry	◆								◆		
45	Hawthorn	◆	◆	◆		◆			◆	◆		

Page	Name	Native Plant	Edible Landscape	Medicinal Plant	Orchard Companion	Drought Tolerant	Wet Tolerant	Shade Tolerant	Hedges	Specimen	Ground Cover	Vine or Climber
45	Hazelnut	◆	◆					◆	◆			
42	Heather		◆	◆		◆				◆		
43	Hickory, Bitternut	◆								◆		
47	Honeyberry		◆	◆		◆			◆			
45	Honeylocust	◆				◆				◆		
47	Honeysuckle, Dropmore	◆								◆		◆
46	Hops			◆				◆				◆
41	Horseradish		◆									
63	Hosta							◆		◆		
46	Hydrangea, Climbing							◆		◆		◆
69	Hyssop			◆	◆	◆			◆			
63	Iris, Bearded									◆		
63	Iris, Northern Blue Flag	◆					◆			◆		
43	Katsura Tree									◆		
45	Kentucky Coffeetree	◆	◆			◆				◆		
39	Kiwi, Hardy		◆									◆
68	Lady’s Mantle			◆	◆			◆			◆	
64	Lavender			◆		◆			◆	◆		
55	Lilac					◆			◆	◆		
56	Linden	◆	◆	◆				◆		◆		
57	Lingonberry	◆	◆			◆					◆	
65	Lobelia	◆			◆		◆	◆				
39	Maple, Sugar	◆	◆					◆		◆		
68	Marshmallow			◆			◆		◆			
49	Medlar		◆							◆		
50	Mockorange	◆							◆	◆		
49	Mulberry	◆	◆							◆		
34	Mushroom Spawn		◆	◆				◆				
57	Nannyberry	◆	◆						◆			
57	Northern Wild Raisin	◆	◆						◆	◆		
51	Oak, Scarlet	◆				◆				◆		
51	Oak, White	◆	◆							◆		
24-25	Peach		◆	◆						◆		
21-22	Pear		◆							◆		
22	Pear, Asian		◆							◆		
42	Peashrub, Siberian		◆		◆	◆			◆			
45	Persimmon, American	◆	◆			◆			◆			
50	Pine, Jack	◆				◆				◆		
50	Pine, White	◆		◆				◆	◆	◆		
51	Plum, Beach	◆	◆			◆			◆			
26	Plum, European		◆							◆		
25-26	Plum, Hybrid		◆						◆			
66	Pulmonaria							◆			◆	
28	Raspberry	◆	◆	◆					◆			
43	Redbud	◆								◆		
51	Rhubarb		◆	◆								
53	Rosa rugosa		◆	◆		◆			◆			
52	Rose, Chloris									◆		◆
66	Sage, Russian					◆				◆		
54	Schisandra Berry			◆				◆		◆		◆
66	Solomon’s Seal	◆		◆				◆	◆			
47	Spicebush	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	◆			
50	Spruce, Colorado Blue	◆				◆			◆	◆		
50	Spruce, Norway					◆			◆	◆		
29	Strawberry		◆								◆	
69	Strawberry, Alpine	◆	◆	◆							◆	
67	Tansy				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			
67	Thyme, Creeping			◆	◆						◆	
61	Turtlehead, White	◆					◆	◆				
47	Twinberry	◆							◆			
47	Walnut	◆	◆	◆						◆		
53	Willow, Blue Leaf Arctic				◆		◆	◆	◆			
53	Willow, Coral Bark				◆		◆		◆	◆		
53	Willow, Pussy				◆		◆		◆	◆		
53	Willow, Weeping			◆			◆			◆		
46	Winterberry	◆		◆			◆		◆	◆		
57	Wisteria	◆								◆		◆
45	Witch Hazel	◆		◆			◆	◆	◆	◆		
68	Yarrow	◆		◆	◆	◆						

Herbaceous Perennial Plants

Most of the perennial plants we offer are hardy at least into Zone 4 unless otherwise noted. USDA hardiness zone (chart on page 71) follows each description. The list is alphabetized by botanical name in italics, followed by common name.



***Achillea millefolium* 'Saucy Seduction' Yarrow** Blooms June through September featuring 2–3" flat-topped flower heads with intense rosy-pink blossoms. Fern-like foliage is aromatic when crushed. Excellent for fresh and dried arrangements. We chose this cultivar for its compact, sturdy and robust habit and its appeal to beneficial insects. Prompt removal of faded flower heads guarantees a long season of blooms. Plant crowns 12–24" apart in full sun to partial shade. 12–24" tall. Z3.

***L651A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L651B**: 3 for $16.50*
***L651C**: 6 for $29.00*

***Aconitum napellus* English Monkshood or Friar's Cap** Produces a mass of late summer blooms with dense showy spikes of dark violet-blue helmet-shaped flowers above elegant palmate foliage in late summer. Grand delphinium-style blooms rarely need staking. An excellent cutflower—cut when 1/3 to 1/2 the spike is in bloom. I love watching bumblebees climb under the hood and completely disappear into the flowers then clamber out again covered with pollen. *The entire plant is poisonous; wash your hands after handling or cutting*. Prefers partial shade. Plant 15–20" apart in moist soil. 36–40" tall. Z3.

***L652A**: 1 for $4.25*
***L652B**: 3 for $10.00*
***L652C**: 6 for $18.00*

***Alcea rosea* Hollyhock** Helena Rutherford Ely says in her 1903 book *A Woman's Hardy Garden*, "No one can have too many hollyhocks. Plant them at the back of the border, among shrubbery, along fences, and in good clumps in any odd corner, or around buildings; they are never amiss, and always beautiful." Hollyhocks produce towering spires covered with flowers for extended bloom through July and August. Wind protection or staking recommended. Z3.

***A. r.* 'Queeny Purple'** This petite queen produces unique double beety-purple flowers with central pompom bursts of tightly clustered petals surrounded by a frilled petal guard. Much like the anemone-type peonies. A choice selection for smaller gardens or containers. Biennial Queeny pumps out the blooms all summer long on freely branching compact 30" plants.

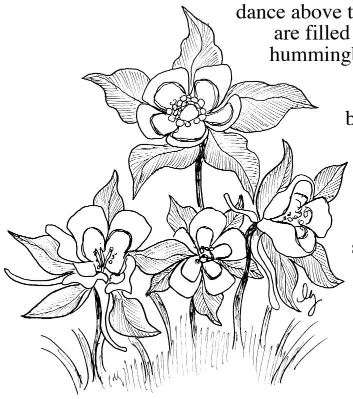
***L653A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L653B**: 3 for $11.75*
***L653C**: 6 for $22.00*

***A. r.* 'Spotlight' Singles Mix** All single first-year–flowering cultivars from the Spotlight Series have a sturdier leaf structure than many of the standard hollyhocks and are truly perennial, not biennial like most Alceas on the market. We will choose 3 of the following plants to feed your hollyhock hungers: 'Black Knight' (a dusky midnight-purple beauty), 'Mars Magic' (in ravishing red), 'Radiant Rose' (which is just that), and 'Sunshine' (a bright clear yellow to light up the landscape). Grows 5–6' tall.

***L654A**: 3 for $11.75*

***Aquilegia* 'McKana Giants' Columbine** Delightful little stacks of round-lobed leaves emerge in early spring when not much else is green. Soon after, magical jewel-like nodding blossoms dance above the foliage. The elegant slender spurs are filled with nectar irresistible to pollinating hummingbirds. McKana Giants, an old British hybrid of uncertain parentage, combines the delights of the wild columbine habit with giant flowers sporting long spurs and a bright bold assortment of colors, including bicolors. Excellent for cutting. Blooms from late May to early June. Best planted en masse, 12–18" apart, in dappled shade to guarantee the best color. Grows 24–30" tall. Z3.

***L655A**: 1 for $3.00*
***L655B**: 3 for $8.00*
***L655C**: 6 for $14.00*



***Arisaema triphyllum* Jack-in-the-Pulpit** In midspring one or two compound leaves appear close to the ground, each with three leaflets framing an upright stem topped by a striped tannish-purple 3" long cuplike spathe (the pulpit) that contains and arches over the erect greenish-yellow spadix (Jack). It's a great pleasure, one I still remember, for the two- or three-year-old set to lift the flap and see Jack. This magical Northeastern native prefers dappled shade and moist rich woodland soil. Nursery propagated. Z3.

***L656A**: 1 for $4.25*
***L656B**: 3 for $10.00*
***L656C**: 6 for $18.00*

Asclepias Named for Asklepios, the Greek god of healing. Commonly known as **Pleurisy Root**, dried roots from the genus were traditionally used in small doses as an expectorant, anti-inflammatory and general tonic. Attracts all manner of bee and butterfly. Watch one of the miracles of summer unfold before your eyes as monarchs lay their eggs on the leaves—a nutritious food source for the resulting caterpillars. Both MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***A. incarnata* Swamp Red Milkweed** This is not the common milkweed so familiar to all of us in the Northeast. *Asclepias incarnata* forms unique flattened clusters of upturned red-rose colored flowers. Willow-like leaves are 4–5" long. Grows naturally in floodplains and wet meadows. Prefers moist soil. Clump-forming, great for naturalizing. 5' tall.

***L657A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L657B**: 3 for $16.50*
***L657C**: 6 for $29.00*

***A. tuberosa* Butterfly Weed** Undeniably the most brilliant summer wildflower in North America, featuring vivid tangerine-orange clusters of flowers atop slender fuzzy stems, covered with green lance-shaped leaves. Spent flowerheads transform into prominent spindle-shaped seed pods that make a unique addition to mixed bouquets. The fleshy taproot will not tolerate clay or low ground. Plant in full sun, 18–24" apart in well-drained fertile soil. 24" tall.

***L658A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L658B**: 3 for $16.50*
***L658C**: 6 for $29.00*

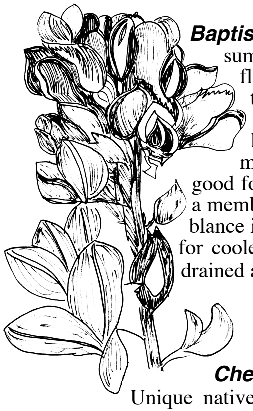
***Astilbe* Feather Flower or False Spirea** Long-lasting plumes of feathery flowers are good for drying and provide an interesting contrast to petaled blossoms. Elegant fern-like foliage forms an attractive clump all season and comes in a wide range of shades and sizes. Convention holds Astilbe to be a partial-shade plant that absolutely requires a moist humusy acid soil when grown in full sun. That's true in warmer areas, but in central Maine it seems to tolerate full sun in a wide range of conditions. Plant 12–18" apart and divide clumps every few years. Z4.

***A. chinensis* 'Mighty Red Quin'** Ravishing red plumes. Chameleon-like foliage shifts red to brown to green. Blooms July–September. 48–50" tall.

***L659A**: 1 for $4.75*
***L659B**: 3 for $12.50*
***L659C**: 6 for $22.00*

***A. japonica* 'Drum and Bass'** Dense luminous raspberry-pink plumes on deep green foliage. Midseason blooms. Grows 16–20" tall.

***L660A**: 1 for $4.75*
***L660B**: 3 for $12.50*
***L660C**: 6 for $22.00*



***Baptisia australis* Blue False Indigo** An early summer stand-out with vibrant blue lupine-like flowers. Seed pods turn black in fall, adding interest to the autumn landscape and providing a unique element to dried floral arrangements. Has a bushy habit and shrub-like structure once mature. Will develop an extensive root system, good for holding slopes to prevent erosion. Baptisia is a member of the pea family, and you'll notice a resemblance in its foliage and flowers, as well as its fondness for cooler weather. Plant 3' apart in full sun and well-drained acid soil. Grows 3–4' tall and just as wide. Z3.

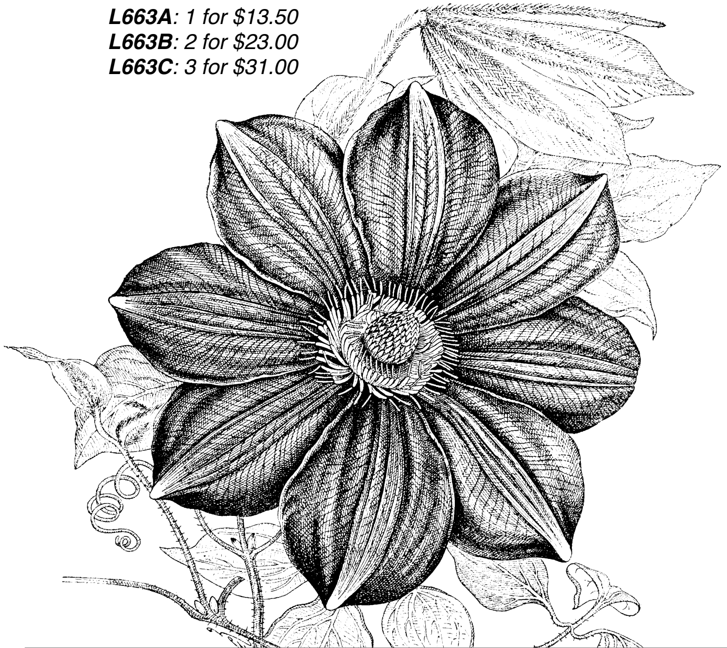
***L661A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L661B**: 3 for $15.75*
***L661C**: 6 for $28.00*

***Chelone glabra* 'Alba' White Turtlehead** Unique native wildflower features white hooded blossoms. *Chelone* is Greek for 'tortoise,' hence its common name Turtlehead. Chelone bears upright stems with boldly veined shiny green leaves topped by elegant spikes of hooded flowers that are shaped very much like a turtle's head. Try planting en masse at the mouth of a woodland path. Deer avoid the bitter foliage. Perfect in moist woods or at the water's edge—these pleasing late-season flowers will flourish in a wide range of moist soils, from clay to sandy, as long as they're not waterlogged. Plant about 12" apart in dappled sunlight. 2–3' tall and just as wide. Z4.

***L662A**: 1 for $4.25*
***L662B**: 3 for $10.00*
***L662C**: 6 for $17.00*

***Clematis* 'Ernest Markham'** Gorgeous ascending perennial vine with handsome velvety magenta-red star-shaped flowers with golden anthers. Expect the heaviest blooms in late summer and fall. Clematis is never found alone in the wild and prefers to climb or crawl onto arbors, balconies, fences, small buildings, stone walls and even other plants. I planted mine underneath a 12' tall highbush cranberry along with my delphiniums and trollius—in a few years it will reach up into the entire shrub and look fabulous! Plant in rich well-drained loamy soil. Mulch to keep the roots cool and evenly moist. This variety performs equally well in full sun or part shade. Provide firm support made of solid wood or metal or plant under a shrubbery for it to grab onto. Keep the roots cool and moist and let the plant tops reach for the sky. Technically classified as Pruning Group 2 (see sidebar below), but most folks follow the Group 3 method for this variety, which results in a heavier bloom later in the season. Grows 10-12' tall. Z4.

***L663A**: 1 for $13.50*
***L663B**: 2 for $23.00*
***L663C**: 3 for $31.00*



Pruning Clematis: It's not as hard as you think!
Clematis are divided into three seperate pruning groups.

Group 1: Early season ramblers. No pruning required. Remove dead tips from the stems if you wish.

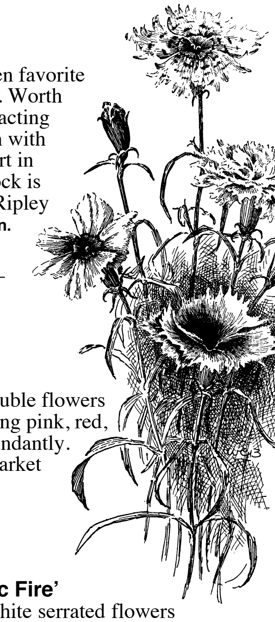
Group 2: Early to mid-season large flowered hybrids. In February or March simply remove dead tips from the stems.

Group 3: Late season flowering species and hybrids. In February or March Prune all the stems back to 12" above ground. Make your cuts above the old leaf joints. New growth will sprout resulting in lush and vigorous foliage.

If you have a clematis that is bare at the base with a bushy clump of flowers at the top, try pruning it according to the Group 3 method. Your plant will develop foliage from top to bottom and the flowers will spread themselves out more evenly.

***Delphinium* 'New Millennium Stars' Mix** is a hybrid series mix of first-year–flowering delphiniums featuring some of the most glorious cultivars I've ever seen—Black Eyed Angels, Blue Lace, Cobalt Dreams, Lilac Ladies, Moonlight Blues, Pagan Purples and Pink Punch, to name a few. Elegant cylindrical terminal flower spikes rise 3–6' above waist-high clumps of palmate glossy green foliage. The New Millenniums develop thicker sturdier flower stalks than the more widely known Pacific Giants. Considered more tolerant to heat and humidity than many standard cultivars, yet the New Milleniums also thrive in super-chilly corners of the world with reports of successful perennial plantings in frosty parts of Canada and even Alaska! Avoid overhead watering to prevent disease. Mulch recommended to keep the roots cool and moist. Delphiniums are hungry hippos—sidedress regularly with compost for best bloom. Plant 32" apart in highly fertile non-acid loam. Light shade is best but full sun is fine. 60" tall. Z3.

***L664A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L664B**: 3 for $14.50*
***L664C**: 6 for $26.00*



Dianthus A traditional cottage-garden favorite with spicy clove-scented flowerheads. Worth their weight in gold in the border, attracting butterflies, hummingbirds and women with scissors! Plant in full sun, 12–18" apart in light well-drained soil. This year's stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***D. barbatus* 'Oeschburg'** Unique crimson-black foliage and deep violet-purple flowers. Biennial. 24" tall.

***L665A**: 1 for $6.25*
***L665B**: 3 for $16.50*
***L665C**: 6 for $30.00*

***D. b.* 'Super Duplex Mix'** Large double flowers in a mix of bicolors and solids including pink, red, rose and white. Biennial. Reseeds abundantly. A staple selection for the cutflower market gardener. 18" tall.

***L666A**: 1 for $6.25*
***L666B**: 3 for $16.50*
***L666C**: 6 for $30.00*

***D. deltoides* Maiden Pinks 'Arctic Fire'** Clump-forming beauty dons dainty white serrated flowers with fiery red eyes. A stunning combination of fragrance, foliage and flower. Beautiful, carefree and tidy addition to the rock garden or sun-drenched path. An excellent complement to Siberian iris in early spring and later with *Nepeta* 'Walkers Low.' Shear off the spent flowerheads to encourage a second bloom in the fall. Lush perennial groundcover flowers in the first year. 6" tall.

***L667A**: 1 for $6.25*
***L667B**: 3 for $16.50*
***L667C**: 6 for $30.00*

***Dicentra spectabilis* Old-Fashioned Bleeding Heart** Graceful racemes arch over clumps of attractive cut foliage. Distinctive pink heart-shaped flowers dangle in a row on each raceme like charms on a bracelet. This classic hardy long-lived perennial thrives in rich moist soil and partial shade. Plant 2–4" deep, 24" apart. Blooms in early to mid spring, goes dormant in summer. 30–36" tall. Z3.

***L668A**: 1 for $4.25*
***L668B**: 3 for $9.00*
***L668C**: 6 for $16.00*

***Digitalis mertonensis* Strawberry Foxglove** Copper-tinged strawberry-rose 2½" pendulous bell-shaped flowers adorned with pink and white spotted throats form along stately spires above basal rosettes of deep green velvet foliage. Flowers June through August. Good for cutting or the naturalized border. The hardiest foxglove for northern gardens. Considered perennial but is best treated as biennial. Spread out the seedlings as they appear and a glorious patch will result in a few years. Plant 12–24" apart in moist slightly acid soil in full sun to part shade. *Caution: all parts of the plant are poisonous; wash hands after handling*. 2–4' tall. Z3.

***L669A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L669B**: 3 for $11.75*
***L669C**: 6 for $22.00*

***Echinops bannaticus* 'Blue Glow' Globe Thistle** 1½" steel-blue spiked spheres balance atop stiff stems with deeply divided silvery green leaves. Excellent addition to wreaths and fresh or dried arrangements. Blooms July to August. Tolerates shallow rocky ground. Plant 1–2' apart in full sun and well-drained soil. 3–4' tall. Z3.

***L670A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L670B**: 3 for $14.25*
***L670C**: 6 for $24.00*

Planting instructions for these perennial plants on page 68.

Ferns are flowerless spore-producing perennials represented by more than 10,000 species worldwide, ranging from 70' tropical tree ferns to teensy plants sprouting from cracks in alpine rock. In Maine we enjoy lush fern displays all summer on the roadsides and in the woods. More and more people are using ferns as foundation plantings and in all kinds of shaded spots. Ferns make wonderful low-maintenance foliage plants that thrive in moist woodsy humus-rich soil and lend a serene aura to a shady garden or landscape. Mulch if necessary to keep crowns from drying out.

***Adiantum pedatum* Maidenhair Fern** or **Eastern Maidenhair** Delicate whorled form makes it one of my favorites. Glossy black stems curve up and then droop toward the ground with more narrow black stems growing in elegant arches from the main stem. Tiny distinct ginkgo-like green leaves line every stem. Plant 12" apart. Grows 10–12" tall. Native to eastern North America. Z2.

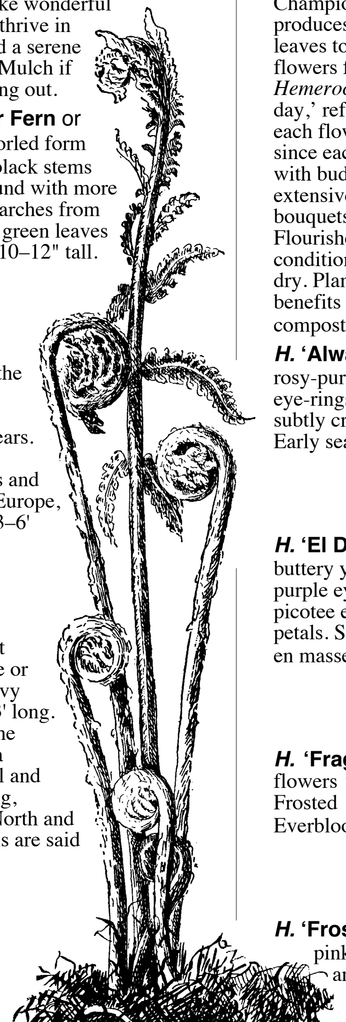
***L671A**: 1 for $3.00*
***L671B**: 3 for $8.00*
***L671C**: 6 for $14.00*

***Matteuccia struthiopteris* Ostrich Fern** One of the largest hardy deciduous ferns, Ostrich Fern features beautiful bright green frond tips that curl like ostrich feathers, making this our best-selling fern for many years. Spreads by underground runners, and will form large colonies if given the chance. Likes open shade, woods and wet banks. Tolerates sun in swampy areas. Native to Europe, but well established and welcome in North America. 3–6' tall. Z2.

***L672A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L672B**: 3 for $14.00*
***L672C**: 6 for $24.00*

***Osmunda regalis* Royal Fern** One of the showiest garden ferns makes a great focal point at the waterside or in a woodland. Attains giant proportions! Soft and wavy deciduous lance-shaped light green fronds can reach 3' long. Sometimes called **Flowering Fern** because some of the fronds have brown spore cases on their tips that lend a decorative tassel-like appearance. Reaches up to 6' tall and more than 9' wide at maturity. Evolutionarily speaking, *Osmunda* is one of the oldest plant genera, native to North and South America and Asia. Some Royal Fern individuals are said to be 1000 years old. Ours are much younger. Z3.

***L673A**: 1 for $3.00*
***L673B**: 3 for $8.00*
***L673C**: 6 for $14.00*



***Geranium maculatum* Spotted Cranesbill** or **Wild Geranium** Clusters of single 1$^1/_4$" wide pinkish-lilac saucer-shaped flowers. The deeply cut leaves turn vivid shades of reddish-orange in autumn and distinctive long narrow "cranesbill" seedpods flutter jauntily above the spreading foliage. Vigor, longevity, hardiness, lo-o-ong flowering period and lush attractive foliage make this North American native useful for borders, edging, rock gardens or as an orchard companion. This is the true geranium. Name confusion may be a big reason why this attractive easy-to-grow genus is not more popular: the tender bedding and indoor plant with big red flowers often called geranium is actually *Pelargonium*. For best results plant in the lightly shaded areas of wild open woodland gardens or in the orchard underneath your ancient apple trees. Tolerates partial shade, but flowers more in full sun. Plant 12–18" apart in average garden soil. 24" tall. Z4.

***L674A**: 1 for $3.00*
***L674B**: 3 for $8.00*
***L674C**: 6 for $14.00*

> I always think of my sins when I weed. They grow apace in the same way and are harder still to get rid of.
> –Helena Rutherfurd Ely
> *A Woman's Hardy Garden*, 1903

***Hemerocallis* Daylily**
Champion low-maintenance perennial produces a bush of narrow arched leaves topped with lily-shaped flowers from July to September. *Hemerocallis* means 'beautiful day,' referring to the fact that each flower lasts only a day, but since each scape (or stem) is covered with buds, bloom periods can be extensive and the long stems work well in bouquets. Trouble-free, chokes out weeds. Flourishes under a wide range of conditions, from full sun to shade, wet to dry. Plant 12–18" apart in average soil; benefits from an annual shovel or two of compost. Z2.

***H.* 'Always Afternoon'** Large 5$^1/_2$" rosy-purple blossoms with dark plum eye-rings, apple-green throats and subtly crimped dusky pink edges. Early season rebloomer. 22" tall.

***L675A**: 1 for $5.25*
***L675B**: 3 for $13.50*
***L675C**: 6 for $24.50*

***H.* 'El Desperado'** Large 5" buttery yellow flowers with dark purple eye-rings and a matching picotee edge halfway up the petals. Stunning when planted en masse. Late season. 28" tall.

***L676A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L676B**: 3 for $17.00*
***L676C**: 6 for $30.00*

***H.* 'Fragrant Returns'** Sweetly scented 4" wide luminous lemon-yellow flowers with subtle ruffled edges. Blooms appear around the same time as Frosted Vintage Ruffle. For a while they make a lovely couple. Everblooming variety starts early and goes till frost! 18" tall.

***L677A**: 1 for $5.00*
***L677B**: 3 for $13.50*
***L677C**: 6 for $23.50*

***H.* 'Frosted Vintage Ruffle'** Dreamy pastel blend of blushing pinkish-ivory mid-ribs with creamy yellow eyezones, rosy ruffled edges and apple green throats. Super bloomer with 5" wide blossoms and reports of over 300 flowers after 3 years in the ground! Vigorous growth habit. Early. 24" tall.

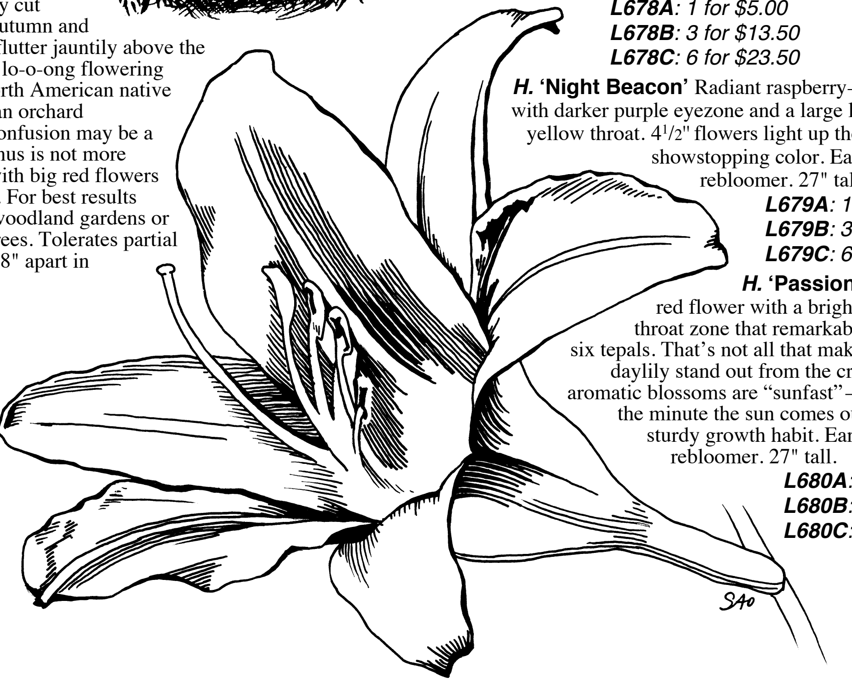
***L678A**: 1 for $5.00*
***L678B**: 3 for $13.50*
***L678C**: 6 for $23.50*

***H.* 'Night Beacon'** Radiant raspberry-purple blossoms with darker purple eyezone and a large luminous lemon-yellow throat. 4$^1/_2$" flowers light up the landscape with showstopping color. Early to midseason rebloomer. 27" tall.

***L679A**: 1 for $5.00*
***L679B**: 3 for $13.50*
***L679C**: 6 for $23.50*

***H.* 'Passion for Red'** Fiery red flower with a bright golden eye and throat zone that remarkably appears on all six tepals. That's not all that makes this fiesty red daylily stand out from the crowd. Its 6" wide aromatic blossoms are "sunfast"—they don't fade the minute the sun comes out. Vigorous and sturdy growth habit. Early to midseason rebloomer. 27" tall.

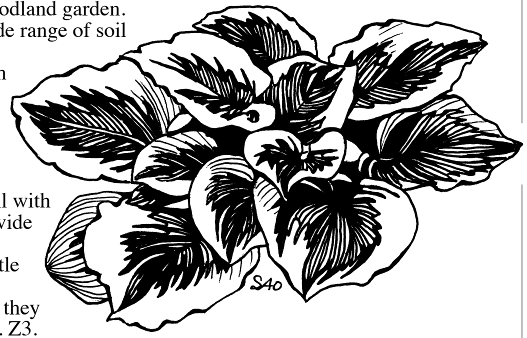
***L680A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L680B**: 3 for $17.00*
***L680C**: 6 for $29.00*



Hibiscus moscheutos **'Vintage Wine' Rose Mallow** Glorious vigorous tall plant with 7" wide shimmering scarlet blossoms with dark red eyes. Unlike the cultivars we've sold in the past, Vintage Wine forms flowers from the top to the bottom of the plant and the blossoms open completely with minimal cupping. Unique overlapping petals have a crinkled texture. Hibiscus is one of the last plants to emerge in spring—be careful not to root it out during spring cleanup. After emerging, it grows like crazy. Starts blooming mid to late summer and goes until frost. Though native to southern swampy margins and meadows, hibiscus will tolerate dry soil once fully established. Plant 18–24" apart in full sun and average garden soil. 4–5' tall. Hardy to Zone 4! *Supplies may be limited.*

***L681A**: 1 for $10.50*
***L681B**: 2 for $17.50*
***L681C**: 3 for $24.00*

Hosta has bold foliage in orderly mounds with dependable sprays of fragrant bell-shaped flowers on tall stalks. Valuable and cherished low-maintenance border plant provides shade-loving groundcover from spring to frost. With their varying colors, textures and clump sizes, hostas alone under trees can make a woodland garden. Hostas tolerate a wide range of soil conditions but need moisture. Those with blue and variegated leaves develop their best color in shade. Deep shade gives fewer flowers. Plant 2–4' apart in rich soil with adequate humus. Divide every 4–5 years, or disturb clumps as little as possible; they improve with age as they spread and establish. Z3.



H. **'Fortunei Aureomarginata'** A classic hale and hearty hosta! Shiny deep olive-green leaves with distinct veining and golden margins. (*Aureus* means 'golden-yellow.') Violet flowers. 18–24" tall and 40" wide. Bargain prices on this fast-growing reliable standby.

***L682A**: 2 for $5.00*
***L682B**: 6 for $13.50*
***L682C**: 12 for $23.50*

H. **'Gypsy Rose'** Gorgeous deep green margins with wide yellow centers outlined with lightning bolt streaks. 15" tall and 30" wide.

***L683A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L683B**: 3 for $14.00*
***L683C**: 6 for $25.00*

H. **'Halcyon'** Legendary hosta with spear-shaped frosty slate blue-green leaves. Retains blue leaf color well into the growing season. Halcyon brings a classic elegant structure to the shade garden. Light blue-violet flowers reach to about 20" tall and 24" wide.

***L684A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L684B**: 3 for $10.00*
***L684C**: 6 for $13.50*

H. **'June'** Broad jetting blue-green margins with color-changing centers—apple-green in spring, then yellow-gold in summer. The colors marble where the margin and centers meet making June the hosta people asks about when they walk through my gardens. Tolerates partial sun. Light lavender-blue flowers. 16" tall and 20" wide.

***L685A**: 1 for $7.00*
***L685B**: 2 for $12.25*
***L685C**: 3 for $16.50*

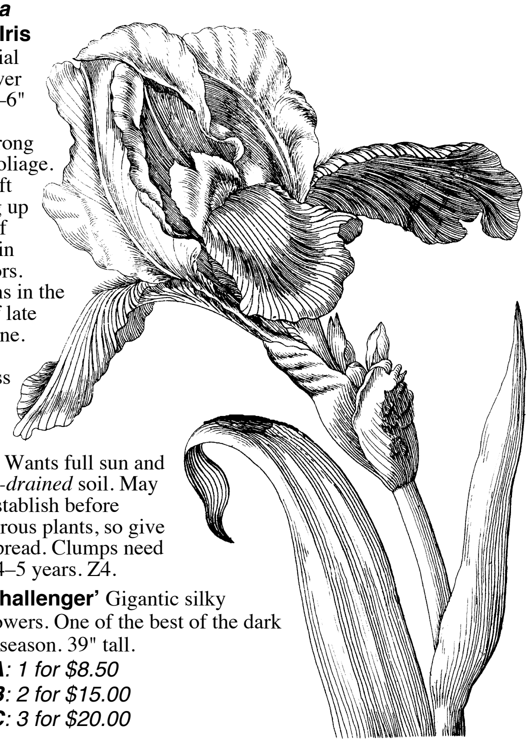
H. **'Jurassic Park'** Glorious giant cascading clumps of puckered blue-green leaves that measure 17" long and 15" wide! Stunning planted as a specimen with fetching lavender flowers. Generally grows 40" tall and 80" wide but we advise you to give this beast plenty of room to spread—the original grower's plant spanned a shocking 9' width after 12 years!

***L686A**: 1 for $8.00*
***L686B**: 3 for $20.75*
***L686C**: 6 for $37.50*

H. **'Stained Glass'** Large 10" vaguely heart-shaped shimmering gold leaves with 2" wide dark green margins. Eye-catching veins run throughout the leaf giving it the look of stained glass. The effect comes on early and lasts throughout the season. A sport of the ever popular 'Guacamole' but with more interesting variation in the leaf pattern, brighter gold centers and stronger sun tolerance. Fragrant lavender flowers. 15" tall and 30" wide.

***L687A**: 1 for $6.25*
***L687B**: 3 for $16.25*
***L687C**: 6 for $29.00*

Iris germanica
Tall Bearded Iris



A hardy perennial and fine cutflower with multiple 3–6" blooms on each flower stalk. Strong sword-shaped foliage. "Beards" are soft hairs protruding up from the crest of each fall, often in contrasting colors. Blooming begins in the first real heat of late May or early June. Plant rhizomes horizontally, less than 1" deep, in clusters with new growth facing outward. Wants full sun and light limey *well-drained* soil. May take a year to establish before blooming. Vigorous plants, so give them room to spread. Clumps need dividing every 4–5 years. Z4.

I. g. **'Dusky Challenger'** Gigantic silky raven-purple flowers. One of the best of the dark irises. Mid-late season. 39" tall.

***L688A**: 1 for $8.50*
***L688B**: 2 for $15.00*
***L688C**: 3 for $20.00*

I. g. **'Earl of Essex'** Elegant flowers have a white background with prominent violet veins and stipples along gently ruffled edges. Light orange beards with a subtle violet infusion. Mid-late season rebloomer. 36" tall.

***L689A**: 1 for $8.50*
***L689B**: 2 for $15.00*
***L689C**: 3 for $20.00*

I. g. **'Magical Encounter'** Sparkling salmon-pink with apricot beards. It is rare to find a pink iris that holds its color like this one. A magical encounter indeed! Fast growing and heavy blooming. Early-late season. 30–35" tall.

***L690A**: 1 for $8.50*
***L690B**: 2 for $15.00*
***L690C**: 3 for $20.00*

I. g. **'Saturday Night Live'** Mammoth ruby-red standards and falls with a yellow beard. Consistently yields 9–12 buds per stem. Midseason. 36" tall.

***L691A**: 1 for $8.50*
***L691B**: 2 for $15.00*
***L691C**: 3 for $20.00*

I. g. **'Tennison Ridge'** Ruby-red standards with crisp white falls surrounded by a plum-burgundy ruffled edges. High bud count. Early-late season. 36" tall.

***L692A**: 1 for $8.50*
***L692B**: 2 for $15.00*
***L692C**: 3 for $20.00*

I. versicolor **Northern Blue Flag** Northeastern native species carries gorgeous blue-violet flowers with bold purple veining and a white and lemon-yellow blaze. Tall slender blue-green arching lance-shaped leaves offer a strong vertical feature to the landscape. Requires consistently moist soil and prefers 2–4" of shallow standing water. Plant in full sun to part shade. Early. 36" tall. Z2. Bargain prices.

***L693A**: 3 for $9.50*
***L693B**: 6 for $16.50*
***L693C**: 12 for $29.00*

Iris Borers: *(Macronoctua onusta)* The key to iris borer prevention is to peel off the dead foliage down to the rhizome in early spring. Destruction of last season's dead foliage destroys overwintered eggs harbored in plant residues. Once the new leaves emerge, inspect them for signs of iris borer larvae. Classic signs of the presence of iris borer larvae is dark streaks, water-soaked areas and ragged foliage. If you find evidence of larvae, gently press your hands together on each side of the base of the leaf, then carefully run your hands up the leaf stalks to squish any larvae that may be inside.

If you find an active infestation in your existing iris beds, dig up the rhizomes after they have flowered, trim off the foliage, inspect the rhizome and cut out any borers and rotten spots. Replant the rhizomes immediately and enjoy the results the following spring!

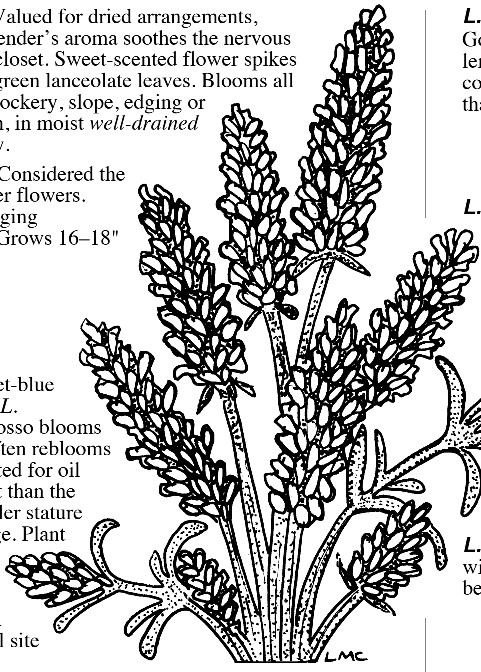
***Lavandula* spp. Lavender** Valued for dried arrangements, potpourri and herb bundles, lavender's aroma soothes the nervous system and perfumes the linen closet. Sweet-scented flower spikes extend above aromatic silvery-green lanceolate leaves. Blooms all summer. Makes a nice border, rockery, slope, edging or specimen plant. Plant in full sun, in moist *well-drained* soil, spaced according to variety.

***L. angustifolia* 'Munstead'** Considered the hardiest lavender. Light lavender flowers. Compact habit lends itself to edging walkways. Plant 12–18" apart. Grows 16–18" tall. Z4.

***L694A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L694B**: 2 for $11.25*
***L694C**: 3 for $15.00*

***L.* x *intermedia* 'Grosso'** or **Lavandin** Plump fragrant violet-blue flower spikes. A cross between *L. angustifolia* and *L. latifolia,* Grosso blooms a bit later than Munstead and often reblooms in the fall. Traditionally cultivated for oil production, with a heavier scent than the standard English lavenders. Taller stature makes a gorgeous fragrant hedge. Plant 36–48" apart for the best effect. Grows 24–30" tall. Thrives in Zone 6 but winters over in my Zone 4 gardens with careful mulching and thoughtful site selection.

***L695A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L695B**: 2 for $11.25*
***L695C**: 3 for $15.00*



***Liatris spicata* Blazing Star** or **Gayfeather** Stiff dense "bottlebrush" magenta-purple flower spikes above fine grass-like foliage. Flowers are good for cutting; leave $^{1}/_{3}$ of stem on plant. Blooms from July to September. Tolerates a broad range of growing conditions, but not drought. Plant in full sun, 3" deep, 8–12" apart, in well-drained fertile soil. 20–30" tall. Z3.

***L696A**: 10 for $2.75*
***L696B**: 20 for $4.75*
***L696C**: 50 for $10.00*

***Lilium* Lily** Queen of the perennial border, fabulously showy and surprisingly easy to grow. **Asiatic** types bloom early with upward-facing star-shaped blossoms on stalks reaching up to 4' tall. **Oriental** strains bloom late with fragrant flamboyant blossoms on stalks capable of reaching heights well above 5'. **Orienpet** types, a cross between Oriental and Trumpet lilies, feature improved disease resistance, higher tolerance to temperature extremes and absolutely ridiculous heights. **Tiger Lilies** are prized for their high bud count, unique beauty and exceptional ability to naturalize in the woodland garden.

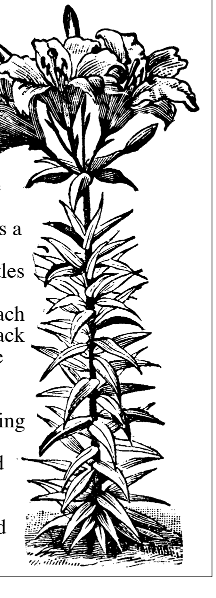
Excellent as bedding plants or cutflowers, good as specimens or in solid masses. Light shade prolongs summer blooms and keeps the bulbs cool. Mulch in full sun. Plant bulbs 6–8" deep, 6" apart in rich slightly acid well-drained soil. All the lilies are hardy to Zone 3 unless otherwise noted.

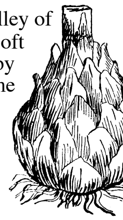
Lily Leaf Beetle Got You on the Run?

It takes less than 10 minutes a day to have gorgeous organic lilies. Each day during the first part of the growing season inspect the lily foliage and pick off the first flush of adult beetles and squish them or drop them into soapy water. You can't miss them—they look like gorgeous bright red jewels. Also look for dull orange eggs on the undersides of the leaves. Smash them, too! If you do this faithfully early in the growing season, you'll give your lilies a chance to grow big enough to withstand the relatively minor nibbling from the few rogue beetles you missed.

Beetles will often drop to the ground as you reach for them and disappear into the soil. If you lay black mulch fabric down when you plant your lilies, the beetles will land on it and then there will be no escaping your deadly grasp!

If you'd rather not smash bugs with your morning tea, try mixing a 1:8 dilution of Dr. Bronner's Peppermint Soap with water. Spray the plants and be sure to get the underside of the leaves. Many Fedco customers have reported success with this method, and I have found success when combined with quick & daily vigilance.





***L.* 'Conca d'Or'** Orienpet. The Italian name means 'Valley of Gold' for its distinct outward-facing magnificently huge soft lemon-yellow blooms with creamy outer edges accented by copper-colored anthers. Sweetly fragrant, a subtler perfume than Stargazer. Late blooming. 36–38" tall. 2–2$^{1}/_{4}$" bulbs.

***L697A**: 1 for $2.50*
***L697B**: 3 for $6.50*
***L697C**: 6 for $11.50*

***L.* 'Flavia'** Orienpet. Intensely fragrant giant creamy yellow flowers with vast rosy red centers and golden throats. Long bloom time and extended vase life. Semi–upward-facing flowers. Mixed into a planting with Conca d'Or these beauties are a sight to behold. 52" tall! 2–2$^{1}/_{4}$" bulbs.

***L698A**: 1 for $2.50*
***L698B**: 3 for $6.50*
***L698C**: 6 for $11.50*

***L.* 'Landini'** Asiatic. Rich glossy purple-red, almost black. Few lilies have such dark smoldering color. 42" tall. 1$^{1}/_{2}$–1$^{3}/_{4}$" bulbs.

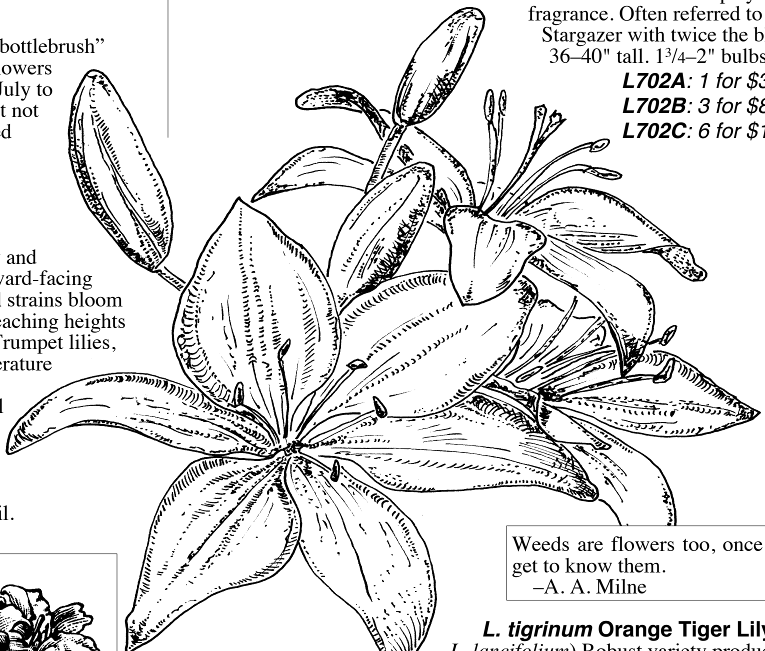
***L699A**: 2 for $4.00*
***L699B**: 6 for $10.50*
***L699C**: 12 for $18.00*

***L.* 'Stargazer'** Oriental. Wildly popular for its fragrant deep-rose blossoms with dark spots and narrow white edging. Flowers are huge when plants become well established. 24–30" tall. Bargain prices on 1$^{3}/_{4}$–2" bulbs.

***L701A**: 2 for $2.50*
***L701B**: 6 for $6.50*
***L701C**: 12 for $11.25*

***L.* 'Thalita'** Oriental. Shock the neighbors with outstanding double-flowering lilies! Rare double blooms are pink with crimson spotting at the center and a sweet spicy intoxicating fragrance. Often referred to as a double Stargazer with twice the bloom time! 36–40" tall. 1$^{3}/_{4}$–2" bulbs.

***L702A**: 1 for $3.25*
***L702B**: 3 for $8.25*
***L702C**: 6 for $14.50*



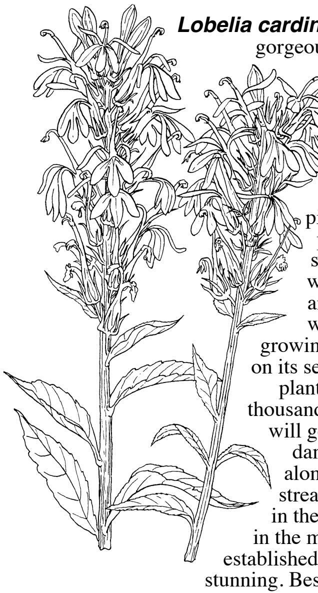
Weeds are flowers too, once you get to know them.
–A. A. Milne

***L. tigrinum* Orange Tiger Lily** (synonym *L. lancifolium*) Robust variety produces scads of fabulous orange nodding flowers with recurved petals generously flecked with dark purple dots. Prominent rusty-red anthers produce a beautiful mahogany pollen. When we were kids, my brother and I spent hours pulling off the anthers and painting each other's faces with the dust. Tiger lilies are distinguished by purplish-black bulbils in the leaf axils along the stem. When the plant is happy, the bulbils will drop and sprout baby lilies by the score. A gorgeous ancient stand of these beauties on a back road in Belgrade is interplanted with vibrant hot pink phlox. The combination is "to die for"—and I nearly did on my morning commute while rubbernecking for a better look! Blooms in August in central Maine. 2–5' tall. Z2. 1$^{1}/_{2}$–1$^{3}/_{4}$" bulbs.

***L703A**: 2 for $4.00*
***L703B**: 6 for $10.50*
***L703C**: 12 for $18.00*

***L. t.* 'Citronelle' Tiger Lily** Luminous lemon-yellow version of the classic tiger lily with densely spotted throats. 1$^{1}/_{2}$–1$^{3}/_{4}$" bulbs.

***L704A**: 2 for $4.00*
***L704B**: 6 for $10.50*
***L704C**: 12 for $18.00*



***Lobelia cardinalis* Cardinal Flower** In early spring this gorgeous North American native forms deep green rosettes, which produce tall green- to burgundy-tinted stems with alternate lance-shaped leaves. Long tubular scarlet flower spikes are irresistible to hummingbirds and butterflies because each tube has a pool of nectar at its base. Habitat loss and thoughtless picking can spell disaster for this plant in the wild. Considered a short-lived perennial, Lobelia will naturalize beautifully and reseed year after year with proper care in the first growing season. Lobelia depends on its seeds for survival. Healthy plants can produce several thousand seeds per stem, which will germinate well only on damp open ground. Plant along the riverbank and streambed, edges of bog, in the perennial border or in the meadow. Once established it is absolutely stunning. Best planted in light shade to full sun in *consistently moist soil*. Mulch to reduce weed competition in the first year. 4' tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown by the conscientious folks at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L705A**: 1 for $7.00*
***L705B**: 2 for $12.50*
***L705C**: 3 for $16.50*

***Monarda didyma* Bee Balm** or **Bergamot** or **Oswego Tea** is loved by bees, butterflies and is one of the best hummingbird magnets nature has to offer! Wild and wily flowers form with tubular petals on pincushion heads borne above colorful bracts in July and August. Aromatic foliage. Good for borders, for wet areas and for cutting. Plant crowns 16–20" apart in light shade in moist soil. Thrives in full sun if given adequate moisture or mulched with leaf mold; tolerates most conditions. All of this year's offering demonstrate excellent mildew resistance. Z3.

***M.* ‘Coral Reef”** Bright coral pink! In my garden its color has exceeded my expectations. Fiesty! 3–5' tall.

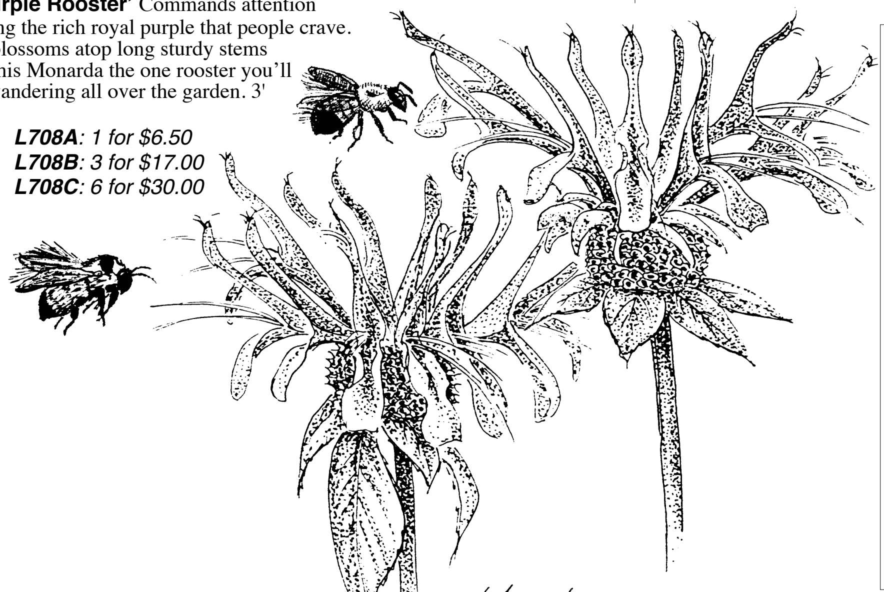
***L706A**: 1 for $5.25*
***L706B**: 3 for $13.00*
***L706C**: 6 for $22.00*

***M.* ‘Panorama Reds’** Fabulous blooms in a diverse range of red shades destined to attract scads of butterflies and hummingbirds for your cats and kids to chase in vain. 3–4' tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown by Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. **ME Grown.**

***L707A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L707B**: 3 for $17.00*
***L707C**: 6 for $30.00*

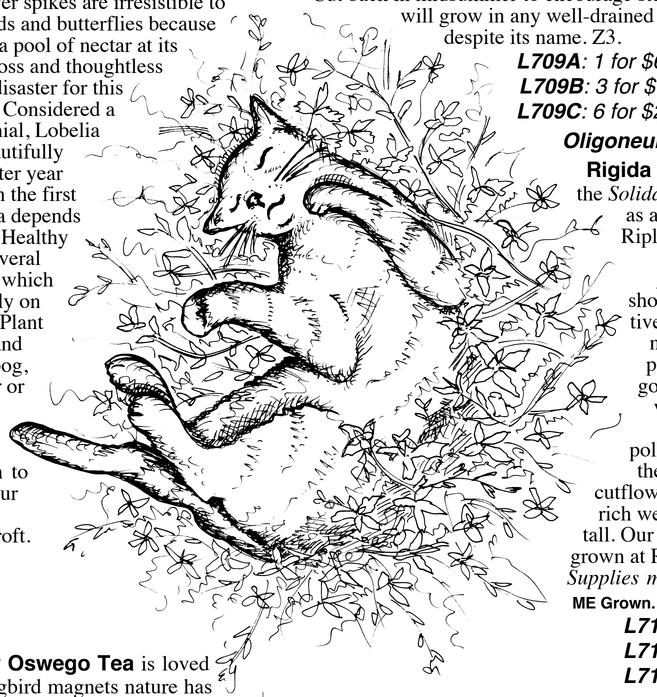
***M.* ‘Purple Rooster’** Commands attention flaunting the rich royal purple that people crave. Huge blossoms atop long sturdy stems make this Monarda the one rooster you'll want wandering all over the garden. 3' tall.

***L708A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L708B**: 3 for $17.00*
***L708C**: 6 for $30.00*



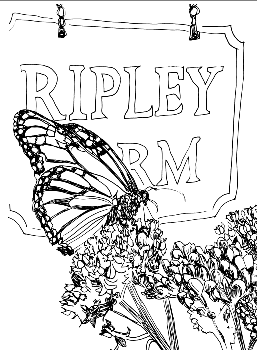
***Nepeta faasenii* ‘Walker's Low’ Catmint** 2007 Perennial Plant of the Year. Aromatic grey-green foliage with long arching stems topped by lavender-blue flowers provides an eye-catching show of color nearly all summer. Creates a strong dependable low-growing hedge along any garden path. Flowers attract bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and human admiration. Cut back in midsummer to encourage steady blooms. Likes hot and dry, but will grow in any well-drained soil, full sun to part shade. 2–3' tall despite its name. Z3.

***L709A**: 1 for $6.00*
***L709B**: 3 for $15.25*
***L709C**: 6 for $28.00*



***Oligoneuron rigidum* Stiff Goldenrod** or **Rigida** Formerly classified as a member of the *Solidago* genus and recently re-classified as an *Oligoneuron*. Local grower Gene Ripley said it best: “Rigida displays the gorgeous yellow-gold vibrancy of goldenrod, but packed into a dense, showy, flat-topped cluster, with attractive lush slate-green foliage that you'd never recognize as a goldenrod. The pollinators absolutely love it, like all goldenrods, but Rigida draws them in without looking weedy or common. My favorite kind of plant: a native pollinator magnet that holds its own in the garden on looks alone!” Excellent cutflower. Plant in full sun to part shade in rich well-drained soil. Ranges from 2 to 5' tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z3. *Supplies may be limited. Please order early.* **ME Grown.**

***L710A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L710B**: 2 for $11.75*
***L710C**: 3 for $16.00*

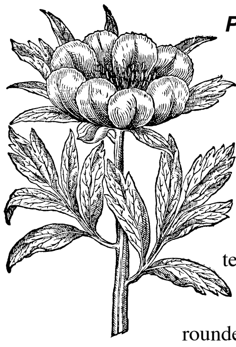


Grower Profile:
Gene and Mary Margaret Ripley

Ripley Farm, Dover-Foxcroft, ME. “In 2011 we began growing perennial plants for Fedco Trees. Though primarily an organic Community Supported Agriculture vegetable farm, we have a passion for propagating as many species of perennial flowers and herbs as possible—specializing in multi-purpose perennials that combine edible, medicinal, cut flower, and beneficial insect habitat functions in their landscape, and have discovered several gems from little known native perennial species.”

There was nothing pretty or charming about this vegetation…it pulsed with life—raw, cosmopolitan, photosynthetic life…Thirty-foot high bushes of buddleia from China towered above the layered sprays of knotweed from Japan, magenta-flowered everlasting-pea from the Mediterranean and the exquisite swan-necked blooms of thornapple, a weed now so spread about the world that its original home is unknown. Beneath them a galaxy of more modest weeds tricked out the compacted layers of plastic and glass that passed for soil…strange tuftings that one might see growing wild together nowhere else in Britain except these abandoned places: cumin, feral gourds, fuller's teasel…I wandered through this ragged Arcadia in my lunch hours, amazed at its triumphant luxuriance, and feeling, in a naively romantic way, that its regenerative powers echoed the work we were trying to do inside. The plants felt like comrades in arms, vegetable guerrillas that had overcome the dereliction of the industrial age. This was my entrée into the world of plants, and it has permanently shaped my attitude towards those species usually vilified as weeds.

–Excerpted from *Weeds: In Defense of Nature's Most Unloved Plants* by Richard Mabey



Paeonia lactiflora **Garden Peony** or **Chinese Peony** Red shoots appear in spring and form a bushy clump, about 3x3', of lustrous dark green deeply lobed foliage. Fat spherical buds on sturdy stems above the foliage gradually open into large beautiful flowers from late spring to early summer. (Ants may help the buds to open so don't discourage their presence.) May take 3 to 5 years to establish before blooming and resents being disturbed. Wait several years, until the plants have many stems (therefore many eyes) before attempting to divide. Z3.

P. l. **'Buckeye Belle'** Deep velvety cranberry red. Broad outer petals form an unmistakable rounded cup that cradles a subtle mound of red petaloids sprinkled with golden stamens. Strong stems make this an excellent cutflower. One of my favorites! Early season. 34" tall.

L711A: *1 for $12.50*
L711B: *2 for $21.00*
L711C: *3 for $28.00*

P. l. **'Coral Sunset'** Intense sunset coral with rose overtones and fluffy golden stamens. Semi-double. Light fragrance and long vase life. Early season. 28" tall.

L712A: *1 for $10.50*
L712B: *2 for $18.00*
L712C: *3 for $24.00*

P. l. **'Primevere'** Sweetly scented clusters of lemon-yellow inner petals form a central pompom burst surrounded by a collar of single creamy white guard petals. Extravagantly beautiful Japanese anemone type. Staking is essential. Midseason. 28" tall.

L713A: *1 for $12.50*
L713B: *2 for $22.00*
L713C: *3 for $29.00*

P. l. **'Raspberry Sundae'** Giant delectable 6" blossoms feature fluffy mounds of pink-blushed creamy vanilla petals circled at the base by a pastel-pink guard. Delightful fragrance and delicate beauty. Early to midseason. 36" tall.

L714A: *1 for $12.50*
L714B: *2 for $22.00*
L714C: *3 for $29.00*

Paeonia suffruticosa **Japanese Tree Peony** or **Moutan** is expensive, but as garden writer Peter Coats says, "It is worthwhile to sell everything one possesses to buy pæonies, and to dig up everything else in the garden to make room for them." Extravagantly big flowers with loose satiny petals bloom in early June before garden peony. Full sun promotes fastest growth but also fades the flowers, which do best in dappled shade. 48–60" tall. One-year plants may need 2–3 years to mature before blooming begins. Z4.

P. s. **'Kinkaku' Tree Peony** Fully double blooms of yellow petals with orange edges, create an overall orange effect.

L715A: *1 for $33.00*
L715B: *2 for $56.00*
L715C: *3 for $75.00*

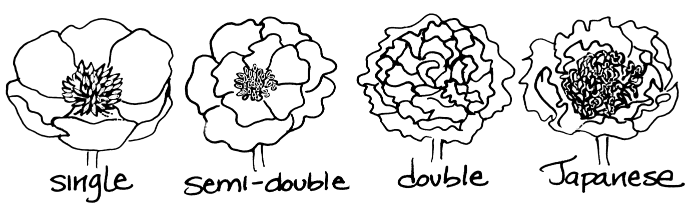
P. s. **Purple Tree Peony** Profusion of semi-double deep pink to burgundy blooms with yellow stamens.

L716A: *1 for $30.00*
L716B: *2 for $52.00*
L716C: *3 for $70.00*

Garden Peonies Plant 2–3' apart with the eyes (where the growth shoots meet the root) no more than 1–1$^{1}/_{2}$" below the surface in well-drained soil, full sun to partial shade. Peonies are extremely long-lived so amend the soil richly when you plant. Compost, very well-rotted manure, bone meal and azomite are all recommended. After that they need only a bit of weeding and feeding to flourish.

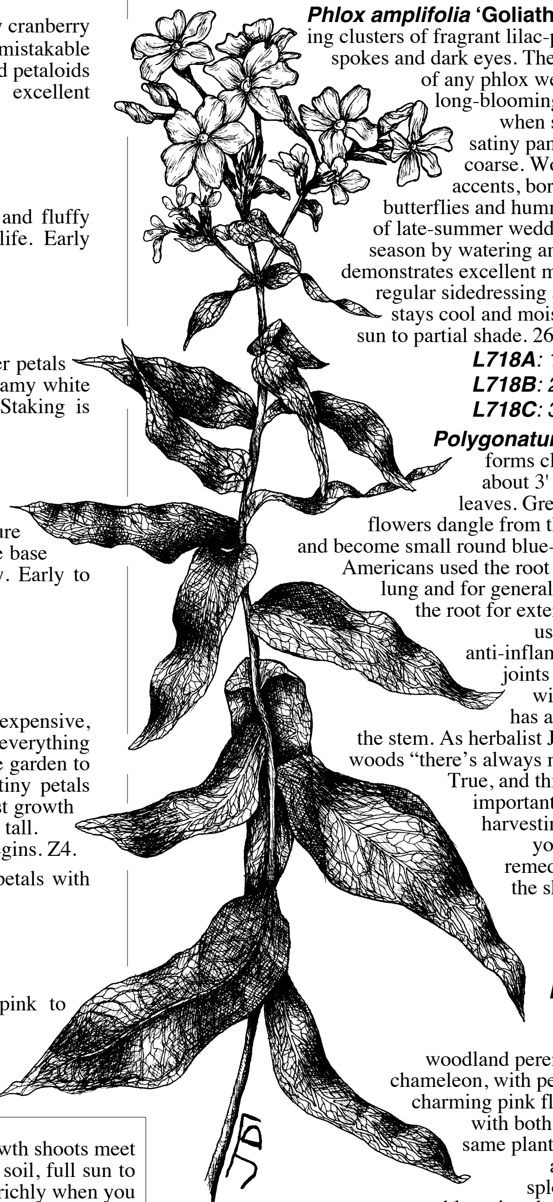
Mature plants often need staking or tying because flowers and buds can be quite heavy. For big plants, I've been using a chicken-wire method that Mary Fowler recommended. Cut a flat circle of chicken wire 2 or 3' in diameter and place it on the shoots when they are 8–10" tall. The shoots lift the wire, grow through it and use it for an invisible support.

Remove spent flowers after blooming, then cut dead foliage to near ground level in fall. Plant along the driveway; a heavy snowbank doesn't bother them.



Perovskia atriplicifolia **Russian Sage** blooms in midsummer with elegant slender spires of lavender-blue tubular flowers. Finely divided grey-green leaves are aromatic when crushed. Perovskia has one of the longest bloom times of any blue-flowered plant. Semi-woody shrub emerges slowly in spring; cut back after frost. Tolerates drought, loves heat and full sun, can't bear standing water. Likes to spread out once it gets established. Plant 24–36" apart. I suspect that Zone 4 reports of winterkill are from poor drainage rather than cold, so a cautious Z4. 36–48" tall.

L717A: *1 for $6.25*
L717B: *3 for $16.00*
L717C: *6 for $28.00*



Phlox amplifolia **'Goliath' Phlox** produces giant spreading clusters of fragrant lilac-purple flowers with starry white spokes and dark eyes. The flower heads are twice the size of any phlox we've ever seen! Produces showy long-blooming flowers in mid to late summer when so many blooms are fading, and satiny panicles when so many blooms are coarse. Wonderful color and fragrance for accents, border or naturalized area. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Essential component of late-summer wedding bouquets. Extend flowering season by watering and prompt deadheading. Goliath demonstrates excellent mildew resistance. Benefits from regular sidedressing and prefers humus-rich soil that stays cool and moist in summer. Plant 2' apart, full sun to partial shade. 26–30" tall. Z3.

L718A: *1 for $5.75*
L718B: *2 for $10.00*
L718C: *3 for $13.00*

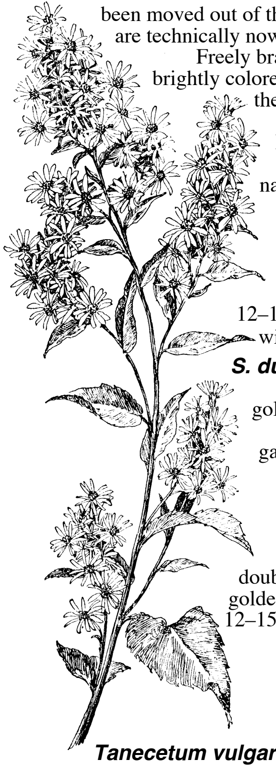
Polygonatum biflorum **Solomon's Seal** forms clumps of graceful arching stems about 3' long with long narrow alternate leaves. Greenish-white bell-shaped tubular flowers dangle from the stems in a row in late spring, and become small round blue-black fruits in early fall. Native Americans used the root tea for ailments of stomach and lung and for general debility, and used washes from the root for external injuries. Western herbalists use the root as a connective tissue anti-inflammatory and to strengthen weak joints and ligaments. Don't confuse it with False Solomon's Seal, which has a plume-like flower at the *end* of the stem. As herbalist Jim McDonald points out, in the woods "there's always more False Solomon's Seal than True, and this makes its ecological status an important consideration, especially when harvesting." Therefore, it's best to grow your own patch for making herbal remedies. Solomon's Seal is ideal for the shade or woodland garden. Z3.

L719A: *2 for $5.50*
L719B: *6 for $13.50*
L719C: *12 for $23.00*

Pulmonaria **Lungwort 'Mrs. Moon'** Brighten up your shade garden with this bold-textured woodland perennial. Pulmonaria blooms like a chameleon, with periwinkle-blue buds that open to charming pink flowers, creating a striking effect with both colors appearing at once on the same plant. Large ovate slate-green leaves are dressed in vivid silver-white splotches. Presents a brilliant early season contrast to blooming daffodils and emerging hostas and ferns. Plant 1–2' apart in moist soil and full to partial shade. Grows 9–12" tall with a slow but steady spread of up to 2" wide. Z3

L720A: *1 for $4.00*
L720B: *3 for $10.00*
L720C: *6 for $17.50*

Throughout the catalog you will find plants with common traditions of medicinal use. These include Asclepias, bee balm, blueberry, elderberry, high and lowbush cranberry, hops, lavender, linden, rose, solomon's seal, witch hazel, eastern white pine and more. Our descriptions include notes about traditional medicinal use. The statements in our catalog regarding traditional medicinal uses of plants have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. The plants we sell are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease.



***Symphyotrichum novae-angliae* Aster**, **Starwort** or **Frost Flower** The New World asters have been moved out of the Aster genus and are technically now *Symphyotrichum*. Freely branching sprays of brightly colored flowers decorate the autumn landscape throughout the Northeast. Asters add hardy grace to the back of the wild border and will naturalize on banks or in the meadow. Cut back slightly in early to mid June to induce an abundance of 1½–2" rayed blooms from late August into October. Deer usually don't eat them. Both of this year's offerings are of compact habit and require no staking. Plant 12–18" apart in light moist humusy soil in full sun with good air circulation. Z4.

***S. dumosus* 'Wood's Pink'** displays clusters of small semi-double clear pink flowers with golden-orange eyes. Rust-resistant foliage. Long bloom time. Highly recommended for rock gardens, walkways and containers. 12–15" tall.

***L721A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L721B**: 3 for $12.00*
***L721C**: 6 for $21.00*

***S. novi-belgii* 'Alert'** Beautiful semi-double blooms are deep purplish red with a golden eye. Excellent late-season cutflower. 12–15" tall.

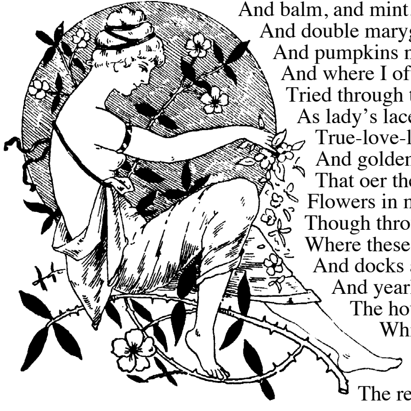
***L722A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L722B**: 3 for $12.00*
***L722C**: 6 for $21.00*

***Tanecetum vulgare* Tansy** People either love or hate this wild and wily beauty. There is no doubt that tansy is a useful and beautiful plant. Tall and stately with aromatic feathery tooth-edged foliage and bold clusters of bright yellow button-like flowers that put on a show from mid-July to late fall. Adds a vibrant note to dried arrangements. High camphor content deters codling moth from fruit, repels borers, particularly in peach trees, and is traditionally used in the home to repel ants, fleas, flies and mice. *Pregnant women avoid.* Tansy accumulates potassium from the soil making it a valuable addition to the compost heap. *Can be invasive, and is best planted in heavy clay soils* so the underground rhizomes will spread more slowly than in light well-drained conditions. Snip off the flower heads for further control of its vigorous spreading nature. Plant 2' apart in full sun in heavy clay soil. *We cannot ship to MT, SD, WA or WI.* Grows 4–5' tall. **ME Grown.**

***L723A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L723B**: 3 for $15.00*
***L723C**: 6 for $25.00*

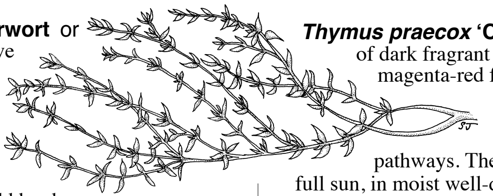
When Planting Comfrey & Tansy & Nettle Choose a site that will never see a rototiller or you will live to regret it!

Why is Fedco selling weeds? Tansy, comfrey, valerian, nettles, Rugosa, blackberry, kiwi, horseradish, groundnuts. Some native, some not. Yep, they can become nuisances if we aren't careful. We weigh the pros and cons of each plant and aim to provide info that will help all of us to garden mindfully. Sometimes we learn something new in our evaluations and decide to take a plant out of the catalog. We hold on to others because we think they are amazing assets to our gardens, and with thoughtfulness they can be cultivated and contained.



And where the marjoram once, and sage, and rue,
And balm, and mint, with curled-leaf parsley grew,
And double marygolds, and silver thyme,
And pumpkins neath the window used to climb;
And where I often when a child for hours
Tried through the pales to get the tempting flowers,
As lady's laces, everlasting peas,
True-love-lies-bleeding, with the hearts-at-ease,
And golden rods, and tansy running high
That oer the pale-tops smiled on passers-by,
Flowers in my time that every one would praise,
Though thrown like weeds from gardens nowadays;
Where these all grew, now henbane stinks and spreads,
And docks and thistles shake their seedy heads,
And yearly keep with nettles smothering oer;—
The house, the dame, the garden known no more:
While, neighbouring nigh, one lonely elder-tree
Is all that's left of what had used to be,
Marking the place, and bringing up with tears
The recollections of one's younger years.

–John Clare, from "The Cross Roads; Or, The Haymaker's Story"



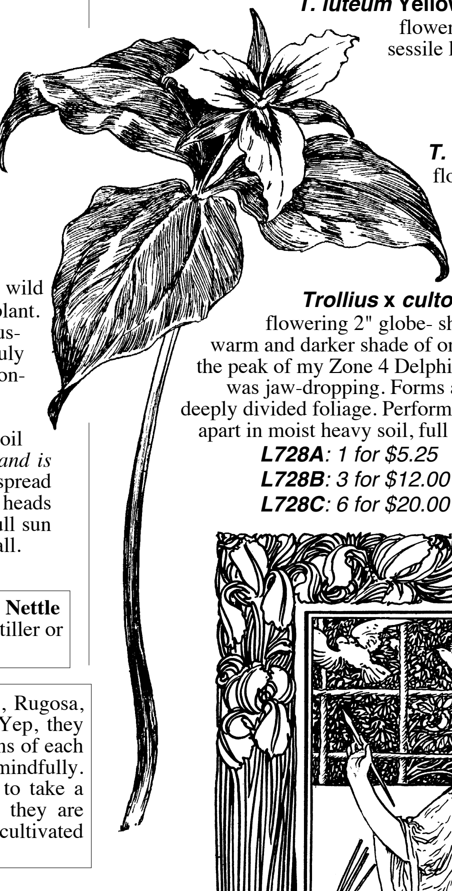
***Thymus praecox* 'Coccineus' Red Creeping Thyme** Dense flat mats of dark fragrant evergreen leaves are quickly blanketed in outstanding magenta-red flowers. One of the most rewarding groundcovers I've ever planted—each year it fills in the blank spots between the chives and sage in my herb beds and is now beginning to politely root itself into the garden pathways. The bees can't get enough of it and neither can I. Plant in full sun, in moist well-drained soil. Grows 2–4" tall.

***L724A**: 1 for $6.00*
***L724B**: 3 for $16.00*
***L724C**: 6 for $28.00*

Trillium Classic native wildflower will gradually build a quiet woodland colony if allowed to grow in peace. Spreads by seed and underground rhizomes. Grows in moist rich woods, full or part shade, from Nova Scotia to the mountains of Georgia, west into Michigan. 8–18" tall. All are nursery propagated. Z4.

***T. grandiflorum* Great White Trillium** or **Wood Lily** Large pure white flowers are perched on a pedicel (stalk) above the leaf whorl.

***L725A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L725B**: 3 for $11.00*
***L725C**: 6 for $18.50*



***T. luteum* Yellow Trillium** Tiny upright lemon-yellow flower petals sit on top of multicolored green sessile leaves mottled with silver.

***L726A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L726B**: 3 for $11.00*
***L726C**: 6 for $18.50*

***T. undulatum* Painted Trillium** White flowers with a pink eyezone at the base.

***L727A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L727B**: 3 for $11.00*
***L727C**: 6 for $18.50*

***Trollius* x *cultorum* 'Orange Crest'** displays double flowering 2" globe- shaped glowing tangerine flowers with a warm and darker shade of orange at the center. Blooms appeared at the peak of my Zone 4 Delphinium bloom and the color combination was jaw-dropping. Forms an attractive mound of palmately lobed deeply divided foliage. Performs well at the water's edge. Plant 8–12" apart in moist heavy soil, full sun to part shade. 24" tall. Z3.

***L728A**: 1 for $5.25*
***L728B**: 3 for $12.00*
***L728C**: 6 for $20.00*

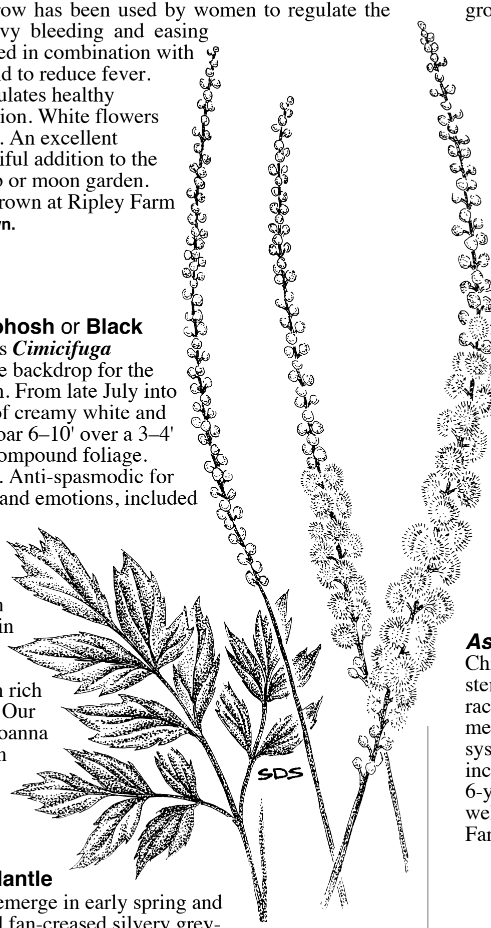
Herbaceous Medicinals

The following plants have long histories of traditional medicinal use. It's up to you to educate yourself about the safety and efficacy of using plants for medicinal purposes. The statements in our catalog regarding traditional medicinal uses of plants have not been evaluated by the FDA. The plants we sell are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease.

Plants may take a year or more to establish before they flower; roots often take several years to reach harvestable maturity. The organic listings are all certified by MOFGA.

Achillea millefolium **Yarrow**, named for its use by Achilles to stanch battle wounds, has a centuries-old tradition of use as an external styptic. A natural anti-inflammatory, yarrow has been used by women to regulate the menstrual cycle, reducing heavy bleeding and easing period pain. Yarrow is often used in combination with other herbs as a cold remedy and to reduce fever. Infusion of flowering tops stimulates healthy digestion and improves circulation. White flowers bloom June through September. An excellent orchard companion and a beautiful addition to the perennial border, meadow, herb or moon garden. Our certified-organic stock is grown at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z3. **ME Grown.**

L729A*: 1 for $6.50*
L729B*: 2 for $11.25*
L729C*: 3 for $15.00*



Actaea racemosa **Black Cohosh** or **Black Snakeroot** Formerly known as ***Cimicifuga racemosa***. Provides the ultimate backdrop for the lightly shaded woodland garden. From late July into August, long arching racemes of creamy white and gold serpentine flower spikes soar 6–10' over a 3–4' mound of fine-textured green compound foliage. Diuretic and anti-inflammatory. Anti-spasmodic for cramps, pains, cramped nerves and emotions, included in many premenstrual and perimenopausal formulas. Roots contain salicylic acid. *Pregnant women avoid.* Prefers part shade, but tolerates full sun in deep moist soil. Grows well in boggy spots. Develops large clumps of rootstock so give it room to spread. Plant 3' apart in rich moist soil, part sun, part shade. Our stock is sustainably grown by Joanna Linden at Shooting Star Farm in Canaan. Z3. **ME Grown.**

L730A*: 1 for $7.50*
L730B*: 2 for $13.75*
L730C*: 3 for $18.00*

Alchemilla mollis **Lady's Mantle**
Enchanting tiny fans of leaves emerge in early spring and unfold into a mound of rounded fan-creased silvery grey-green foliage. Sprays of tiny yellow-green stars bloom on 15" tall stalks above the foliage. Most herbals list the medicinal variety as *A. vulgaris*; ornamental growers list this very similar species as *A. mollis* in this botanically bewildering genus. *A. vulgaris* tends toward a looser more spreading habit than the tighter more upright *A. mollis*. Both varieties have traditionally been used as a poultice to tone and firm breast tissue and to promote fertility. Lady's Mantle has a new claim to fame as an orchard companion plant. When planted at the base of old apple trees, this shade-loving plant attracts hordes of beneficial insects and acts as a beautiful low spreading groundcover. 12–18" tall. Z3.

L731A*: 1 for $3.75*
L731B*: 3 for $8.50*
L731C*: 6 for $15.50*

Althaea officinalis **Marshmallow** Small delicate lavender-white flowers with darker lavender stamens appear up and down the stalks of this beautiful towering medicinal plant. I've been drawn to marshmallow ever since I watched herbalist Deb Soule rub its soft velvet leaf against her cheek and explain how much the ruby-throated hummingbird appreciates the nectar of marshmallow flowers. The leaf, flower and mucilagenous roots are traditionally used to soothe the mucous membrane linings of the lungs and digestive tract, and to calm the lining of the urinary tract. Leaf is best used *fresh* for tea, and the dried roots are best when soaked overnight in cool water for tea. Harvest 4-year-old roots for medicinal use. Wonderful in a hedgerow and magnificent planted with black cohosh as they often blossom together in late July and into August. Readily self-sows. Plant 1–2' apart in light moist soil, part sun, part shade. 5–8' tall. Our certified-organic stock is grown at Ripley Farm. Z4. **ME Grown.**

732A*: 1 for $7.50*
732B*: 2 for $13.75*
732C*: 3 for $18.00*

Arnica chamissonis Spreading groundcover with bright yellow daisy-like flowers used externally in oils and salves to treat bruises, sprains and inflammation. Never take internally except in homeopathic doses. In the right conditions a few plants will develop into a dense long-lived patch. Blooms in July. Grows successfully in our climate and is a generally accepted substitute for *A. montana*. Plant in full sun 1' apart in moist well-drained soil. Lauren Cormier sustainably grew these North American natives. Z3. **ME Grown.**

L733A*: 1 for $7.00*
L733B*: 2 for $12.50*
L733C*: 3 for $16.50*

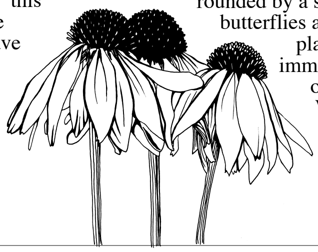
Asarum canadense **Canadian Wild Ginger** Heart-shaped leaves up to 7" wide will spread into a beautiful groundcover. Leaves are large and slightly fuzzy, not small and glossy like the European species. Aromatic roots used like other gingers for their warming qualities and for soothing indigestion, coughs, colds and motion sickness. Grown for roots and foliage. The small reddish-brown urn-shaped flowers grow near the soil surface or in the surface leaf mold so that crawling insects can pollinate them. They're fun to search for but won't decorate your landscape. Requires shade and moist rich woodland soil. 6–12" tall. Z3.

L734A*: 1 for $4.25*
L734B*: 3 for $11.50*
L734C*: 6 for $18.00*

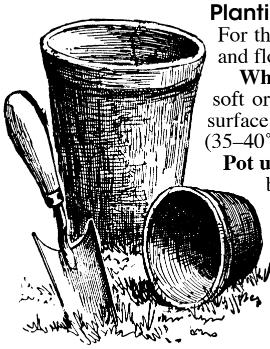
Astragalus membranaceus **Chinese Milk Vetch** Root is *huang qi* in China. Deep-rooted leguminous plant forms an upright bush with many stems, each thickly covered with tiny pinnate leaves and small arching racemes bearing rows of whitish-yellow flowers. This important Chinese medicinal, when used over many months, is known to rebuild the immune system while combating exhaustion. Long-term tonic use is believed to increase stamina and improve resistance to cold temperatures. Harvest 4- to 6-year-old roots in fall. Plant in full sun, 12" apart in deep gravelly well-drained soil. 18–36" tall. Our certified-organic stock is grown at Ripley Farm. Z4. **ME Grown.**

L735A*: 1 for $8.00*
L735B*: 2 for $15.00*
L735C*: 3 for $20.00*

Echinacea purpurea **Purple Coneflower** *Echinos* means 'spiny' and the coneflower's spiny seedheads are a beautiful coppery yellow-brown, surrounded by a single row of reflexed lavender-purple petals. Attracts butterflies and beneficial insects. Tincture the roots of 3-year-old plants for a remedy that gives an immediate boost to the immune system; use it when you feel a cold or flu coming on. Tolerates wind, heat and drought once established. Will reseed abundantly. Plant 20–30" apart in full sun and light sandy soil. Grows 3–5' tall. Sustainably grown by Joanna Linden. Z3. **ME Grown.**



L736A*: 1 for $7.00*
L736B*: 2 for $12.50*
L736C*: 3 for $16.50*



Planting Instructions for Bare-Root Perennial Plants

For the first growing season, let new perennials focus on root growth. Once established, usually in the second year, they are vigorous and floriferous.

When you receive your order, open the bags and check the stock immediately. Roots and crowns should be firm and pliable, not soft or brittle. If they are slightly dry, add a little water or, if they are going to be potted up soon, soak the roots. Generally, a little surface mold is harmless and will not affect the plant's future performance. If you cannot pot them up immediately, store them in a cool (35–40°) location for a short time.

Pot up the rootstock in well-drained potting mix. Most plants need a deep 6" pot or a 1-gallon container. Avoid coiling the roots in the bottom of under-sized containers. Grow newly potted perennials for a few weeks in a protected location in indirect light at 50–60° and keep from freezing. Wet and/or cold conditions for an extended period may cause rotting. Begin feeding when new growth appears. Keep dry fertilizers away from plant crowns. Use animal manures with caution as they can promote fungal and bacterial diseases.

Transplant outside once they show some top growth and the danger of frost has passed. Dig a hole about twice the size of the pot, loosening the surrounding soil and adding compost or fertilizers as necessary. Generally, plant the top of the crown just below ground level, less than an inch from the surface of the soil.

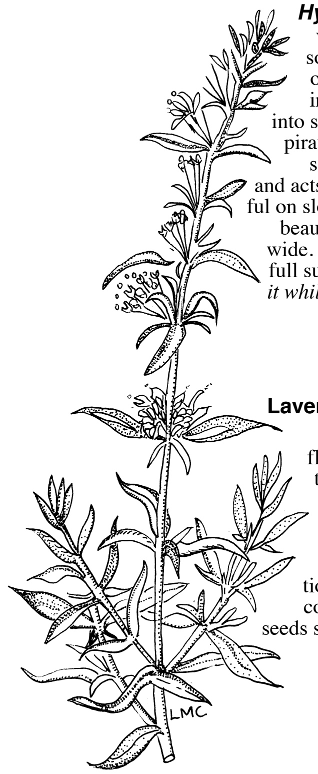
All perennials appreciate a fall mulch and a sidedressing of compost or leaf mold in the spring.

***Fragaria vesca* Alpine Strawberry** Great for edging walkway, bed or border; spreads by runners that root as they go. Familiar compound leaves and white flowers are followed by juicy sweet rich red berries from late spring till fall. Leaves are considered blood purifying and diuretic in European folk tradition. Plant in full sun, 8–12" apart in slightly acid moist well-drained soil. 4–8" tall. Our stock is certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L737A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L737B**: 3 for $16.50*
***L737C**: 6 for $29.00*

***Hydrastis canadensis* Goldenseal** Native to Eastern hardwood forests. Plants have upright stalks, typically forked into two stems, each with a deeply incised dark green leaf with 5–7 lobes and toothed edges. A unique white flower with a dozen or so pistils appears above the foliage in spring and matures into a raspberry-shaped red berry that typically contains one or two shiny black seeds. Requires moist cool woodland soils and deep shade. Harvest root after seeds ripen in fall. 6–12" tall. Nursery propagated. Z3-6.

***L738A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L738B**: 3 for $16.50*
***L738C**: 6 for $29.00*



***Hyssopus officinalis* Hyssop** Vivid blue-violet double-lipped flowers on spikes blossom from June through September. Infusions of the fragrant dark green leaves and flowering tops are traditionally used as tea or made into syrup to ease digestion and treat chronic respiratory infections after they have peaked. Hyssop increases the production of liquid mucus and acts as an expectorant. Thrives in dry soil, useful on slopes and any sunny difficult place. Makes a beautiful hedge that will draw bees from far and wide. 12–20" tall. Plant 12–24" apart in poor soil, full sun to light shade. Z3. *Limited supply—get it while you can!* **ME Grown.**

***L739A**: 1 for $7.00*
***L739B**: 2 for $12.50*
***L739C**: 3 for $16.50*

Lavender see page 64.

***Leonurus cardiaca* Motherwort** Purple flowering tops can be used for bitter teas and tinctures or added to soup for a unique layer of flavor. Bolder brewers might add it to their beer. Believed to strengthen the heart muscle and relieve nervous tension. Traditionally used by women during life transitions. Self-sows even in poor soil and can become troublesome, but regular harvest before seeds set will remedy that. 2–4' tall. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L740A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L740B**: 3 for $16.50*
***L740C**: 6 for $29.00*

Edible and Medicinal Herbaceous Weeds:

Coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara*) Non-native perennial. Leaves harvested in early spring tinctured for antiasthmatic properties and relieving coughs and colds. Spreads on fill and gravel.

Plantain (*Plantago major*) Perennial anti-fungal commonly used in poultices for burns, swelling, bites and sores. Roast seeds and sprinkle on salads. Thrives in compact soil and is commonly seen on grassy paths where there is a lot of foot traffic.

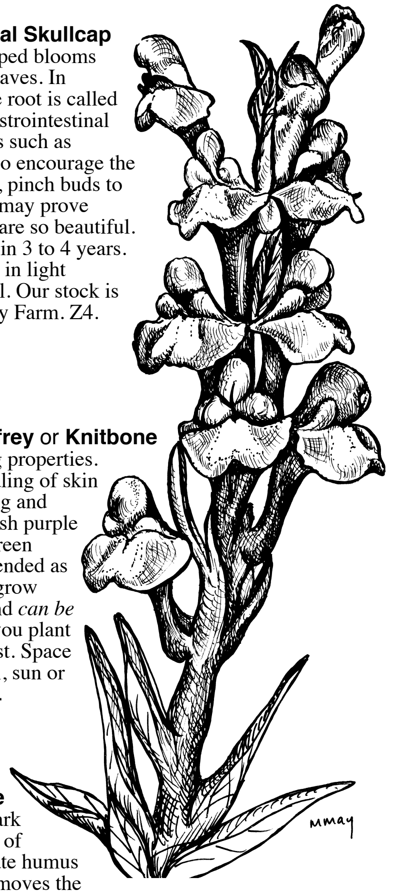
Burdock (*Arctium lappa*) Biennial. Root and seeds used medicinally as a blood and lymphatic cleanser. Called *gobo* in Japan and commonly used in stir-fries and soups. Harvest roots in early spring before plants flower, or late fall.

Common Chickweed (*Stellaria media*) Annual native to temperate regions all the way to the Arctic. Good in salads. Use topically for burns, rashes and skin irritations, or tincture for digestive and respiratory illnesses.

Purslane (*Portulaca oleracea*) Spreading edible groundcover commonly seen growing in sandy dry soil. Best eaten before flowering. Makes great pesto. Hoe or weed out of garden areas before going to seed—one plant contains up to 200,000 seeds!

Mugwort (*Artemesia vulgaris*) Native to Europe and Asia. Grows in the tiniest sidewalk crack. Bitter herb with dozens of medicinal uses for digestive, circulatory, reproductive and nervous systems. Used for thousands of years in Chinese and Ayurvedic Medicine.

Horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*) Perennial native to temperate regions of the world and commonly seen growing on roadsides, gardens and in sandy areas. Silica-rich foliage used in tinctures and teas to improve hair and skin. In Japan and Korea the tiny roundish buds are eaten in spring. Used as a biodynamic prep where there is excess water or fungal problems.



***Scutellaria baicalensis* Baikal Skullcap** produces indigo monkshood-shaped blooms with shiny green lance-shaped leaves. In traditional Chinese medicine, the root is called *huang qin* and is used to fight gastrointestinal infections and allergic conditions such as asthma, hay fever and eczema. To encourage the roots' optimal medicinal powers, pinch buds to prevent blooming, although this may prove challenging because the flowers are so beautiful. The root attains harvestable size in 3 to 4 years. Plant in partial shade, 1–2' apart, in light well-drained soil. Grows 1–4' tall. Our stock is certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm. Z4. **ME Grown.**

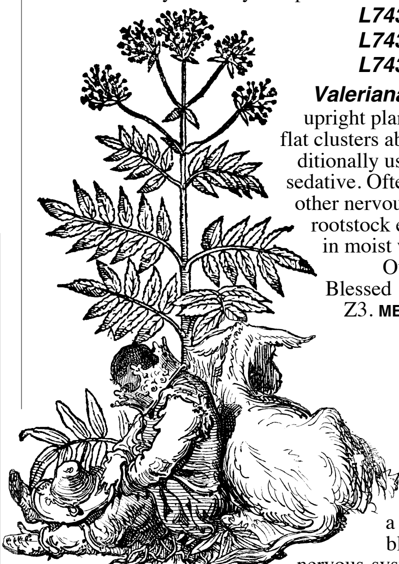
***L741A**: 1 for $7.00*
***L741B**: 2 for $12.50*
***L741C**: 3 for $16.50*

***Symphytum officinale* Comfrey** or **Knitbone** Well known for its skin-soothing properties. Contains allantoin, promotes healing of skin and bone; also demulcent for lung and throat. Clusters of bell-like pinkish purple flowers dangle above the deep green bristled foliage. Highly recommended as an orchard companion. Easy-to-grow vigorous plant demands space and *can be very invasive*; be careful where you plant it and control with regular harvest. Space 16–24" apart in well-drained soil, sun or shade. 24–48" tall. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L742A**: 1 for $5.25*
***L742B**: 3 for $14.50*
***L742C**: 6 for $24.00*

***Urtica dioica* Stinging Nettle** Biodynamic gardeners use the dark green nettles to increase potency of neighboring herbs and to stimulate humus formation. Cooking or drying removes the sting. Young shoots are high in minerals—the leaves are delicious steamed as early spring greens. Dried nettles used as a feed supplement for chickens have a layman's reputation for increasing egg production. Choose your planting spot carefully; nettles spread and the rhizomes and leaves sting. An indicator of super-fertile soil where it volunteers. Plant in damp rich soil with high nitrogen content; especially likes composted manure piles or the lush side of your leaky compost bin. Grows 3–6'. Z2. **ME Grown.**

***L743A**: 1 for $7.00*
***L743B**: 2 for $12.50*
***L743C**: 3 for $16.50*



***Valeriana officinalis* Valerian** A strong and upright plant with small white or rosy flowers in flat clusters above glossy pinnate leaves. Roots traditionally used as an anti-spasmodic, nervine and sedative. Often used for sleeplessness, anxiety and other nervous complaints. Divide or harvest thick rootstock every 4 to 5 years. Plant 12–15" apart in moist well-drained soil in full sun. 2–4' tall. Our stock is certified organic, grown at Blessed Maine Herb Farm in Athens, ME. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L744A**: 1 for $6.25*
***L744B**: 2 for $11.50*
***L744C**: 3 for $15.25*

***Verbena hastata* Blue Vervain** Elegant North American native with tall branching flower spikes of vibrant blue-purple flowers that whorl around the spikes one ring at a time. Honeybees mingle amongst the blossoms all day. Commonly used as a nervous-system tonic and mild sedative. Tincture of the fresh flowering tops is said to help ease stress-induced neck tension, as well as help women to navigate premenstrual, perimenopausal and menopausal waters. Grows wild along streambeds and marshes but will happily grow in ordinary garden soil. Plant 1–2' apart in full sun. 5–7' tall. Grown by Lauren Cormier. Z3. **ME Grown.**

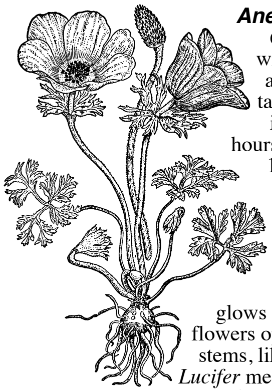
***L745A**: 1 for $7.00*
***L745B**: 2 for $12.50*
***L745C**: 3 for $16.50*

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Tender Summer Bulbs Spring-planted bulbs offer wonderful variety to the cutflower market and are a staple in old-fashioned gardens. Once upon a time, back roads beckoned my mother to spend many a summer Sunday in search of the best deal on roadside dahlias, glads and lilies. Every few miles she would find buckets brimming with blooms for 10¢ a stem. Nowadays it's more like $1. Spring-planted bulbs are not hardy to northern climes. Smart and thrifty people lift and store them over the winter; the rest of us treat them as annuals.

Acidanthera murielae* Fragrant Gladiolus** Now called ***Callianthus murielae or ***Gladiolus callianthus***. We will report here if we ever make sense of these names. Sword-like foliage is topped by wonderfully scented star-shaped 2" white flowers with mahogany-purple centers on arching stems. Beautiful in the garden or as a cutflower. 24" tall. Culture like gladiolus.

***L752A**: 10 for $3.50*
***L752B**: 20 for $5.50*
***L752C**: 50 for $12.00*



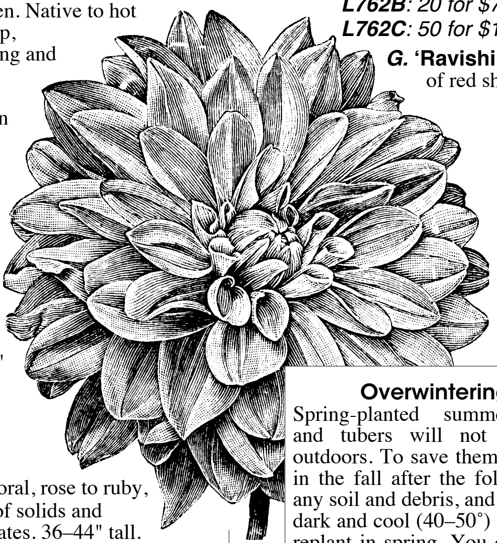
***Anemone coronaria* De Caen Mix Anemone or Windflower** Charming single flowers 1–3" wide are dark purple-blue, red, rose or white and appear in early summer. Good for borders, containers and cutting. Keep moist during the growing season. Soak the knobby tubers in water 24 hours before early spring planting. Plant in full sun, 1–2" deep, 4–8" apart in light sandy soil. 8–10" tall.

***L753A**: 10 for $4.25*
***L753B**: 20 for $7.25*
***L753C**: 50 for $15.50*

***Crocosmia* x *crocosmiiflora* 'Lucifer'** glows in the garden! Midsummer sprays of bright red flowers open from bottom to top on long arching bronze stems, like bursts of flame above gladiolus-like foliage. *Lucifer* means 'light-bearing' in Latin. Grows well in pots. Makes a long-lasting cutflower. Plant in full sun, 3" deep, 3" apart in moist well-drained soil. 24–36" tall.

***L754A**: 10 for $4.00*
***L754B**: 20 for $7.50*
***L754C**: 50 for $15.00*

Dahlia provides endless displays of breathtaking blossoms in a vast array of sizes, shapes and colors, steadily blooming from midsummer till frost—adding incredible late-season value to the cutting garden. Native to hot parts of the Americas and first developed as a food crop, ornamental dahlias are descended from years of breeding and hybridizing *D. pinnata* and *D. juarezi*.
Plant 3–4" deep, 12–24" apart. Set the tubers flat with eyes facing up. Grows best with 3–4 hours of direct sun per day, but will tolerate conditions from full sun to light shade. Dahlias often need staking, but close plantings can support each other. Blooms are susceptible to insect damage, especially in the bud stage, so watch for slugs, tarnish bugs, leafhoppers and thrips. Plan a control program ahead of time. Conventional wisdom says to plant after danger of frost, but our former longtime grower in Massachusetts planted his the same time as his peas!



***D.* 'Ferncliff Illusion'** Gorgeous white with violet tips. Giant dinnerplate spans 10" across. Grows 48–52" tall.

***L755A**: 1 for $4.25*
***L755B**: 3 for $10.75*
***L755C**: 6 for $20.00*

***D.* Sultry Sunset Mix** Colors range from amber to coral, rose to ruby, to a warm rich magenta-purple. A grand combination of solids and bicolors, cactus, semi-cactus, decoratives and dinnerplates. 36–44" tall.

***L756A**: 3 for $12.00*
***L756B**: 6 for $21.00*
***L756C**: 12 for $38.00*

***Ranunculus* Hybrids Mix** Orange, white, yellow, pink or red flowers resemble giant double buttercups and bloom from late spring into summer. Good for borders, pots and cutting. Fern-like foliage. When Ranunculus appears at the florist in late winter, I go nuts and completely forget my budget! Ranunculus tubers require 4 to 6 weeks of cool nights at 40–50° with daytime temps between 60–75° in order to sprout. If it's too warm they will stay dormant. Before planting, soak tubers in water for several hours to several days. Plant in full sun, in moist well-drained soil. Set 2–4" deep, 6" apart, claw side down. May take 4–6 weeks to sprout. Plant in spring in Zones 4–7. Zones 8–11, where it is perennial, plant in fall. Grows 12" tall.

***L765A**: 6 for $4.00*
***L765B**: 12 for $6.75*
***L765C**: 24 for $12.00*

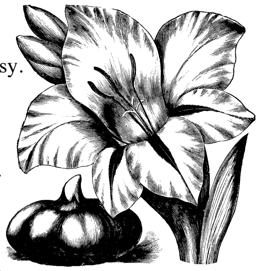
***Gladiolus* Sword Lily** Showy summer bloomer excels as a cutflower. Each stalk is covered with 10 or more open funnel-shaped flowers that bloom from bottom to top. Named for their sword-like leaves; a *gladiolus* is a small Roman sword. Plant corms 4–6" deep and 6" apart after the last spring frost. Each stalk blooms for about a week, roughly 8 weeks after planting. Stagger plantings for flowers from summer to frost. Hilling or staking may be needed if their sword-shaped foliage and 3–4' flower spikes get top heavy. Cut when 2–3 flowers have opened, taking care to spare the leaves, which feed the developing corm. Dig up the corms after the tops have died, discard the old one, clean the new one, dry, and store loose (no peat) in a cool dry place. Thrips are a problem for glads. Infestations are indicated by yellowing and spotted foliage. Be prepared lest they harm your plants and prevent flowering. Consider a control program—possibilities include insecticidal soap, garlic, pyrethrum or rotenone—to use at the first sign of infestation. 36" tall.

***G.* 'Green Star'** Out-of-this-world luminous lime green!

***L757A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L757B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L757C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Nori'** Violet-blue with a prominent cream-colored throat. A customer favorite—not included in the Blue Moon Mix listed below.

***L758A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L758B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L758C**: 50 for $18.00*



***G.* 'Plum Tart'** A dark purplish wine, very classy.

***L759A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L759B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L759C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Purple Passion'** Classic rich royal purple.

***L760A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L760B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L760C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Raven'** Dark red with a suggestion of black.

***L761A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L761B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L761C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Blue Moon Mix'** Brilliant blue-violet color combinations for your cutflower fantasies.

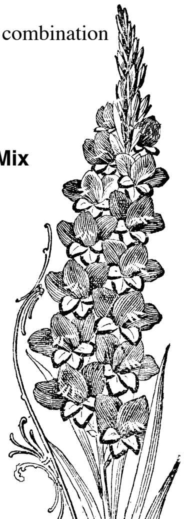
***L762A**: 10 for $4.25*
***L762B**: 20 for $7.75*
***L762C**: 50 for $17.00*

***G.* 'Ravishing Reds Mix'** A rambunctious combination of red shades and variations.

***L764A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L764B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L764C**: 50 for $18.00*

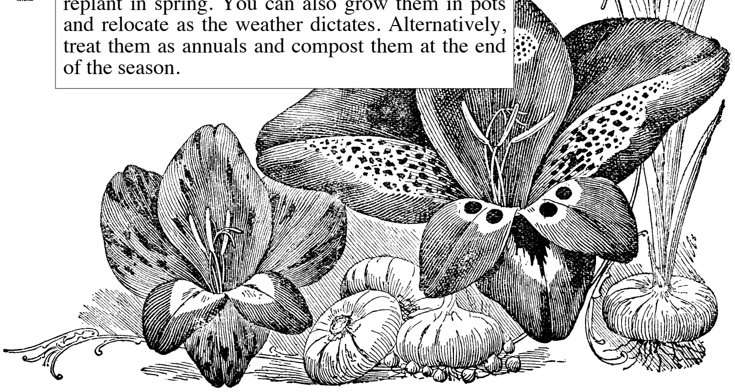
***G.* Large-Flowering Glad Mix**

***L763A**: 10 for $4.25*
***L763B**: 20 for $7.75*
***L763C**: 50 for $17.00*



Overwintering Summer Bulbs

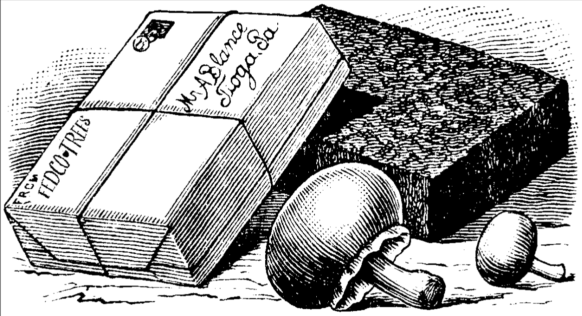
Spring-planted summer-blooming bulbs, corms and tubers will not survive northern winters outdoors. To save them for next year, dig them up in the fall after the foliage dies, gently brush off any soil and debris, and dry them. Store somewhere dark and cool (40–50°) in dry peat or sawdust, then replant in spring. You can also grow them in pots and relocate as the weather dictates. Alternatively, treat them as annuals and compost them at the end of the season.



Index

Page

- *Abies* 39
- *Acer* 39
- *Achillea* 33, 60, 68
- *Acidanthera* 70
- *Aconitum* 60
- *Actaea* 68
- *Actinidia* 39
- Agri-gel 28, 50
- *Alcea rosea* 60
- *Alchemilla* 68
- *Allium* 33
- *Althaea* 68
- *Amelanchier* 40
- Anemone 70
- *Apios* 40
- Apple 8-20, 48-49
- Apricot 23
- *Aquilegia* 60
- Arborvitae 56
- *Arctostaphylos* 40
- *Arisaema* 60
- *Aristolochia* 41
- *Armoracia rusticana* 41
- Arnica 68
- *Aronia* 41
- Arrowwood 57
- *Asarum* 68
- *Asclepias* 60
- Asian Pear 22
- Asparagus 42
- Aster 67
- *Astilbe* 60
- *Astragalus* 68
- *Baptisia* 33, 61
- Basswood 56
- Bayberry 50
- Beach Plum 51
- Bearberry 40
- Bearded Iris 63
- Bee Balm 33, 65
- Berries 27-29
- *Betula* 42
- Birch 42
- Black Cohosh 68
- Black Raspberry 28
- Black Walnut 47
- Blackberry 28
- Blazing Star 64
- Bleeding Heart 61
- Blueberry 27
- Blue Flag 63
- Blue Vervain 69
- Boneset 33
- Book 13
- *Buddleia* 42
- Bulbs 70
- Butterfly Bush 42
- Butterfly Weed 60
- Butternut 47
- Buttonbush 43
- *Calluna* 42
- *Calycanthus* 42
- Cane Fruits 28
- *Caragana* 42
- Cardinal Flower 65
- Carolina Allspice 42
- *Carya* 43
- *Castanea* 43
- Catalpa 43
- Catmint 65
- Cedar, Eastern White 56
- *Celtis* 43
- *Cephalanthus* 43
- *Cercidiphyllum* 43
- *Cercis* 43
- *Chelone* 61
- Cherry, Cornelian 44
- Cherry, Dwarf Sour 51
- Cherry, Nanking 51
- Cherry, Pie 24
- Cherry, Sweet 23
- Chestnut 43
- Chinese Milk Vetch 68
- Chives, Wild 33
- Chokeberry 41
- Chokecherry 51
- Cider Apple 8-19
- *Cimicifuga* 68
- Clematis 61
- Collections
  - Cider Apple 11
  - Crabapple 48
  - Grape 31
  - Heritage Apple 11
  - Hybrid Plum 25
  - Orchard Companion 33
- Columbine 60
- Comfrey 69
- Comfrey, Russian 33
- Coneflower 68
- Conifers 39, 49, 50, 56
- Cornelian Cherry 44
- *Cornus* spp. 44
- *Corylus* 45
- Crabapple 48-49
- Crampbark 57
- Cranberry, American 56
- Cranberry, Highbush 57
- Cranesbill 62
- *Crataegus* 45
- Crocosmia 70
- Cypress 56
- Dahlia 70
- Dawn Redwood 49
- Daylily 62
- Delphinium 61
- *Dianthus* 61
- *Dicentra* 61
- Diervilla 45
- *Digitalis* 61
- *Diospyros* 45
- Dogwood 44
- Dutchman's Pipe 41
- Echinacea 68
- *Echinops* 61
- Elderberry 54
- Elm 56
- *Eupatorium* 33
- Evergreens 39, 50, 56
- False Indigo 33, 61
- Feather Flower 60
- Ferns 62
- Filbert 45
- Fir 39
- Forsythia 45
- Foxglove 61
- *Fragaria* 29, 69
- Geranium 62
- Ginger, Wild 68
- Ginkgo 45
- Gladiolus 70
- *Gleditsia* 45
- Globe Thistle 61
- Goldenrod, Stiff 65
- Goldenseal 69
- Grape 30-31
- Groundnut 40
- *Gymnocladus* 45
- Hackberry 43
- *Hamamelis* 45
- Haskap 47
- Hawthorn 45
- Hazelnut 45
- Heather 42
- *Hemerocallis* 62
- Hibiscus 63
- Hickory 43
- Hollyhock 60
- Honeyberry 47
- Honeylocust 45
- Honeysuckle, Bush 45
- Honeysuckle, Dropmore 47
- Hops 46
- Horseradish 41
- Hosta 63
- *Humulus* 46
- Hydrangea 46
- *Hydrastis* 69
- Hyssop 69
- *Ilex* 46
- Iris 63
- Jack-in-the-Pulpit 60
- *Juglans* spp. 47
- Juneberry 40
- Katsura Tree 43
- Kentucky Coffeetree 45
- Kiwi, Hardy 39
- Lady's Mantle 68
- Lavender 64
- Lemon Balm 33
- *Leonurus* 69
- *Levisticum* 33
- *Liatris* 64
- Lilac 55
- Lily 64
- Linden 56



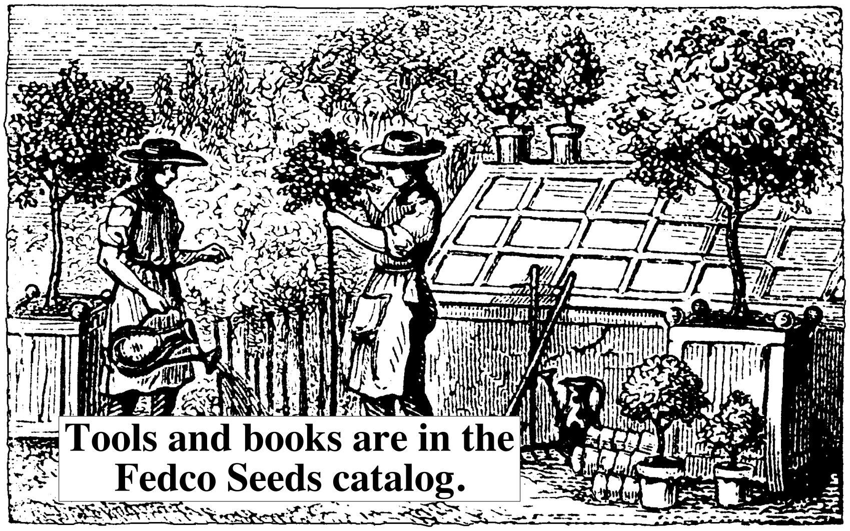
Fungi Makes its Fedco Debut! See p. 34

USDA Hardiness Zone	Average Minimum Temperature
2	-50° to -40°
3	-40° to -30°
4	-30° to -20°
5	-20° to -10°
6	-10° to 0°

New for 2016

- New Fruits, Berries, Grapes & Hops
- Mushroom Spawn
- Carolina Allspice
- Hybrid Chestnuts
- Grafted Kousa Dogwood
- Twinberry
- Mulberry
- Bald Cypress
- Jack Pine
- Expanded Orchard Companion Collection
- Clematis
- New Millenium Stars Delphiniums

- *Lindera benzoin* 47
- Lingonberry 57
- Lobelia 65
- *Lonicera* spp. 47
- Lovage 33
- Lungwort 66
- *Malus* 8-20, 48-49
- Maple 39
- Marshmallow 68
- Medicinal Plants 68-69
- Medlar 49
- *Melissa* 33
- *Mespilus* 49
- *Metasequoia* 49
- Milkweed, Red 60
- Mockorange 50
- Monarda 33, 65
- Monkshood 60
- *Morus rubra* 49
- Motherwort 69
- Mulberry 49
- Mushroom Spawn 34
- *Myrica* 50
- Nannyberry 57
- *Nepeta faasenii* 65
- Northern Wild Raisin 57
- Oak 51
- *Oligoneuron* 65
- Peach 24-25
- Pear 20, 21-22
- Peashrub 42
- Peony 66
- Perennial Plants 60-69
- *Perovskia* 66
- Persimmon 45
- *Philadelphus* 50
- Phlox 66
- *Picea* 50
- Pine 50
- Plum 25-26
- Plum, Beach 51
- *Polygonatum* 66
- Pruning 5, 46, 50
- *Prunus* 20, 23-26, 51
- Pulmonaria 66
- Pussy Willow 53
- *Pyrus* 20, 21-22
- *Quercus* 51
- Ranunculus 70
- Raspberry 28
- Redbud 43
- *Rheum* 51
- Rhubarb 51
- Rigida 65
- Rootstock 20, 38
- Rose 52-53
- Rose Mallow 63
- *Rubus* 28
- Sage, Russian 66
- *Salix* spp. 53
- *Sambucus* 54
- Saskatoon 40
- *Schisandra* 54
- Scionwood 20, 37-38
- *Scutellaria* 69
- Skullcap 69
- Solomon's Seal 66
- Spicebush 47
- Spruce 50
- Stewardship Apple 19
- Stinging Nettle 69
- Stone Fruit 23-26
- Strawberry 29, 69
- Strawberry, Alpine 69
- Sweet William 61
- Sword Lily 70
- *Symphyotrichum* 67
- *Symphytum* 33, 69
- *Syringa* spp. 55
- *Tanecetum* 33, 67
- Tansy 33, 67
- *Taxodium* 56
- *Thuja* 56
- Thyme, Creeping 33, 67
- Tiger Lily 64
- *Tilia* 56
- Tree Peony 66
- Trillium 67
- Trollius 67
- T-shirt 17
- Turtlehead 61
- Twinberry 47
- *Ulmus* 56
- *Urtica* 69
- *Vaccinium* spp. 27, 56-57
- Valerian 69
- *Viburnum* spp. 57
- *Vitis* 30-31
- *Verbena* 69
- Walnut 47
- Wild Bergamot 33
- Willow 53
- Windflower 70
- Winterberry 46
- Wisteria 57
- Witch Hazel 45
- Yarrow 33, 60, 68
- **Order Forms 35-38**

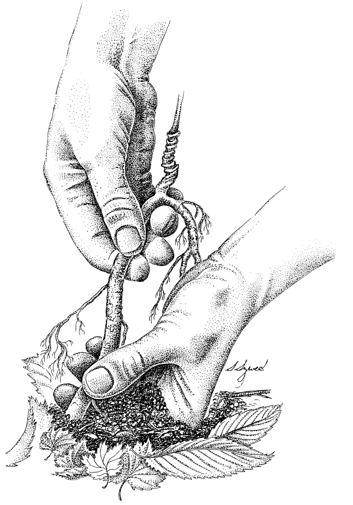


Tools and books are in the Fedco Seeds catalog.

Fedco Trees
PO Box 520
Waterville, ME 04903-0520

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Fedco Seeds Inc.

change service requested

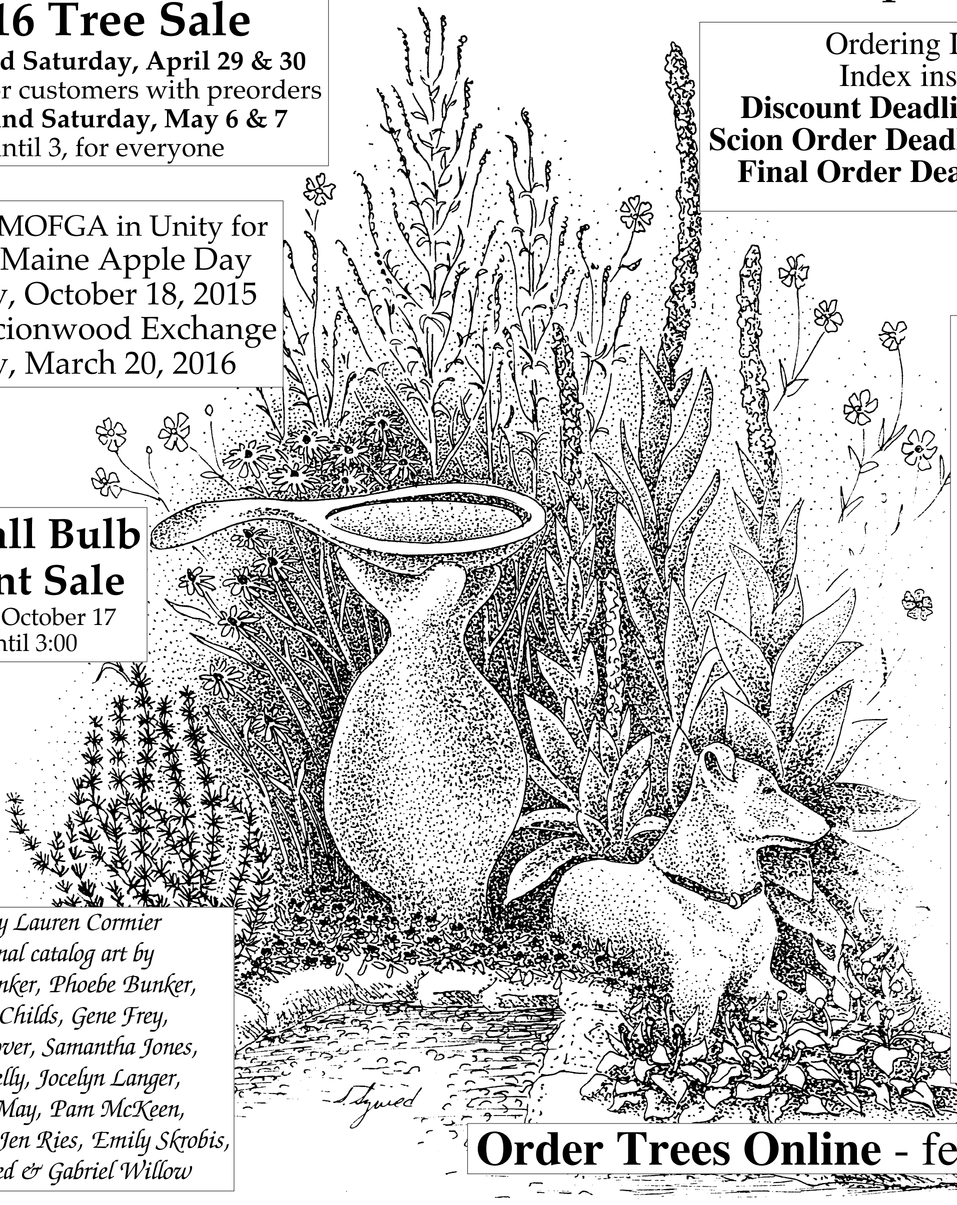


Trees, Shrubs, Fruits, Berries & Perennials
for Spring Planting

2016 Tree Sale
Friday and Saturday, April 29 & 30
9 until 3, for customers with preorders
Friday and Saturday, May 6 & 7
9 until 3, for everyone

Ordering Information p. 3
Index inside back cover
Discount Deadline: January 15, 2016
Scion Order Deadline: February 19, 2016
Final Order Deadline: March 4, 2016

Join us at MOFGA in Unity for
- Great Maine Apple Day
Saturday, October 18, 2015
- The Scionwood Exchange
Sunday, March 20, 2016



The Whole Calendar
October 17th
Fedco Fall Bulb & Plant Sale
Saturday 9-3 in Clinton
October 25th
Great Maine Apple Day
at MOFGA in Unity, Sat. 9-3
January 12-14
ME Agricultural Trade Show
at the Augusta Civic Center
January 15th
Discount Deadline
February 19th
Scion Order Deadline
March 4th
Final Order Deadline
March 20th
The Scionwood Exchange
at MOFGA in Unity,
Sunday 9-3
April 29-30
Fedco Tree Sale
Friday and Saturday 9-3
for customers with preorders
May 6-7
Fedco Tree Sale
Friday and Saturday 9-3
for everyone!

2015 Fall Bulb & Plant Sale
Saturday, October 17
9:00 until 3:00

cover by Lauren Cormier
original catalog art by
John Bunker, Phoebe Bunker,
Laura Childs, Gene Frey,
Laura Grover, Samantha Jones,
Mark Kelly, Jocelyn Langer,
Melissa May, Pam McKeen,
Sarah Oliver, Jen Ries, Emily Skrobis,
Sue Szwed & Gabriel Willow

Order Trees Online - fedcoseeds.com

Save this catalog– it has planting instructions.